

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA & NATUROPATHY,
UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY
(AYUSH)**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3042
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23rd March, 2021**

LOW EXPORT OF HERBS AND HERBAL PRODUCTS

3042 **SHRI RAJEEV SATAV:
SHRI SANJAY SETH:**

Will the Minister of **AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY** be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's share in the total global export of herbs and herbal products is very low and, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor

(b) whether there is a huge demand for Indian herbs in the European and other developed countries

(c) if so, whether Government has formulated any scheme to promote the export of these products from the country along with the incentives provided to the exporters for the purpose and

(d) the other steps taken by Government to boost the said exports and increase India's share in the global export of herbs?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND
SPORTS AND ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF MINISTER OF STATE (IC) OF THE
MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA,
YOGA & NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) & (b): India during 2019-20 exported USD 280.92 mn worth of value-added extracts of medicinal herbs (Pharmexcil basket) to about 100 plus countries globally. India's export of value-added extracts of medicinal herbs during April-Jan FY 2020-21 has grown by 31.30% in comparison with that of April-Jan FY 2019- 2020. Details are at Annexure – I.

The exports of value-added extracts of medicinal herbs to the developed countries/regions like North America and European Union (EU), during April-Jan. FY 2020- 21 in comparison with that of April-Jan FY 2019-20, has grown by 53.26 % and 26.32%, respectively.

(c) & (d): In view of the huge potential for growth and Export of AYUSH products and services across the globe, the Ministry of AYUSH in cooperation with Ministry of Commerce and Industry has proposed to set up an Ayurveda Export Promotion Council (AEPC) for medicines and products of Ayurveda, Homoeopathic, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Unani systems and services of the AYUSH systems. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) has been given the responsibility as a Nodal agency for Ministry of AYUSH to coordinate with other Industry bodies and companies to develop a corpus for formation of AEPC as per the norms/ guidelines of the Ministry of Commerce.

To boost export of AYUSH products, under Central Sector Scheme for promotion of International Cooperation, (IC Scheme), incentive are provided to AYUSH drug manufacturers for participating in International exhibitions / trade fairs, etc. and for Market Authorization/ registration of AYUSH products with USFDA/ EMEA/ UK-MHRA/ NHPD (Canada)/ TGA and other international regulatory agencies, etc. abroad for the purpose of export. So far more than 50 products (Unani and Ayurveda) have been registered in 08 countries namely Kenya, USA, Russia, Latvia, Canada, Oman, Tajikistan and Sri Lanka.

Ministry of Commerce through Market Access Initiative (MAI) scheme supports exporters of herbal products by providing financial assistance for participation in trade fairs, Product registration reimbursements, International Business Meets globally.

Pharmexcil with the support of Department of Commerce has taken up several activities, such as organising Reverse Buyer Seller Meets focused to herbals and AYUSH products, enabling small and medium companies to develop relation/start business with importers and distributors of the traditional medicine extracts and products for export promotion of traditional medicines

Benefits under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) were available for certain herbal products for exports made in the period 01.04.2015 to 31.12.2020 however, this Scheme is now discontinued. From 01.01.2021, a new Scheme for Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) for refund of un -remitted duties and taxes levied at the Central, State and local levels, such as electricity duties and VAT on fuel used for transportation, which are not getting exempted or refunded under any other existing mechanism has been operationalized by Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).

India's export of value-added extracts of medicinal herbs (in USD mn)

India's export of value-added extracts of medicinal herbs (in USD mn)			
Region	April-Jan FY-20	April-Jan FY-21	Gr%
North America	74.60	114.33	53.26
EU	73.17	92.43	26.32
Asia (Excluding Middle East)	23.06	32.24	39.84
Asean	21.70	23.03	6.09
South Asia	12.92	9.78	-24.30
LAC	8.11	9.32	14.91
Middle East	7.34	9.11	24.14
Oceania	4.48	6.65	48.41
Africa	3.52	3.77	7.15
CIS	1.02	1.58	54.42
Other European Countries	0.47	0.22	-53.16
Other America	0.01	0.04	250.05
Total	230.39	302.49	31.30