

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *59
ANSWERED ON 29.11.2024

EXPORTS OF BASMATI RICE FROM PUNJAB

*59. SHRI SANJEEV ARORA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE & INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total volume of basmati rice exported from Punjab in the last three years, with data on key export destinations and value-added rice products;
- (b) Government's efforts to protect the Geographical Indication (GI) status of basmati rice and its impact on the global market share of Punjab's rice exports; and
- (c) the manner in which Government is assisting Punjab's Basmati rice farmers and exporters in overcoming challenges such as global price fluctuations, trade barriers, and quality standards?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 59 FOR ANSWER ON 29th NOVEMBER, 2024 REGARDING “EXPORT OF BASMATI RICE FROM PUNJAB”.

(a) (i) The designated GI areas of Basmati Rice in India are the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh(30 districts), Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, the Union Territory of Jammu &Kashmir (two districts in Jammu)&the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(ii) The government maintains record of total basmati rice exports from India. The top ten export destinations of Basmati Rice from India, including that from Punjab, are as under:

Export of Basmati Rice from India

Key Destinations	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
US\$ Mill				Qty in MT's		
Saudi Arabia	646	1037	1253	674851	954484	1098042
Iraq	400	375	886	486296	364064	824527
Iran	818	980	680	998045	998879	670782
Yemen	184	308	342	205948	289605	307117
UAE	221	335	333	257258	315313	308656
U S A	184	239	305	161005	204026	234469
U K	119	137	219	131322	142618	185544
Kuwait	129	159	202	147485	156440	179583
Oman	73	125	181	77469	112063	164351
Qatar	64	93	124	71724	92061	115404
Others	701	1000	1311	736757	929419	1153573
Total	3540	4787	5837	3948161	4558972	5242048

Source:DGCIS

(iii) The value added products of rice are a part of the larger export basket comprising of cereal preparations and milled products which also contains other value added cereal based products. The exports of cereal preparations and milled products including that from rice from India (including from Punjab) is as under:

India's Export of Cereal Preparations and Milled products						
	USD Million			Qty in MT		
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Total	655.22	757.34	852.40	419492.76	486975.98	547620.70

(b) (i) The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority(APEDA), a Statutory Body under the Ministry of Commerce& Industry, Govt. of India is mandated for the registration and protection of Intellectual Property Rights, in respect of Basmati Rice in India or outside India.

(ii) The GI for Basmati Rice in India was obtained by APEDA with effect from 26th November 2008. APEDA has been taking various legal steps worldwide to protect the Geographical Indication (GI) status of Basmati rice in India and the world.

(iii) APEDA has successfully obtained GI for Basmati Rice in 20 Countries and obtained Certification marks in 9 Countries. Proceedings related to registration of GI/Certification are underway in 34 Countries.

(iv) Legal notices and actions before IP offices and courts are underway to prevent infringing marks from obtaining registration and to prevent unauthorised use of the name and logo Basmati. Till date more than 1200 instances of attempted registrations of infringing trademarks in 50 countries across all continents have been prevented for Basmati Rice.

(v) These initiatives have helped strengthen the position of Basmati rice in global markets including that from Punjab. After registration of Basmati Rice as GI in 2008, the exports of Basmati Rice including from the state of Punjab have increased from 106 countries to 150 countries in 2023-24. Furthermore, the total exports of Basmati rice have also increased from 2.01 Million MTs (USD 2.297 Billion) in 2009-10 to 5.24 Million MTs (USD 5.83 Billion) in 2023-24.

(c) The Government through APEDA & Indian Council of Agricultural Research has taken following major steps for assisting all Basmati rice farmers and exporters including those from Punjab in overcoming challenges such as global price fluctuations, trade barriers, and quality standards:

(i) Financial assistance is provided to the exporters of APEDA's Scheduled products, including Basmati Rice exporters of Punjab under APEDA's financial Assistance scheme.

(ii) Facilitate and support the participation of Basmati rice exporters, in key International Trade Fairs such as GULFOOD Dubai, SIAL Paris, ANUGA Germany, etc.

(iii) Global campaign for promotion of Basmati Rice to broaden and deepen its market across the Globe.

(iv) Continuous efforts towards resolution of trade barriers imposed through quality standards by importing countries at various forums including WTO and at the bilateral level.

(v) For quality assurance and authentication of Basmati Rice, a modern laboratory has been set up by Basmati Export Development Foundation (BEDF) under APEDA for DNA profiling, pesticides residue testing and quality testing on the basis of physical parameters.

(vi) Capacity building of farmers and exporters through workshops, seminars & trainings in association with State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and ICAR institutes.

(vii) ICAR has developed improved varieties of Basmati Rice to enhance yields and ensure better resistance of Basmati Rice to diseases.
