

So, the statement that exports have been declining I respectfully submit, is not factually correct.

Export of Food Products

*538. SHRI K.V.R. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the food products exported during 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92 and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(b) the target fixed for the export of the above products during 1992-93; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage the exports of food product?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHLIRSHED): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Information for major items is indicated in the statement given below.

(c) Government have already taken a series of measures to improve policy environment for exports. These measures have been further reinforced by the new Import & export Policy, which has come into force with effect from 1st April, 1992, for a period of five years.

Specific steps taken or proposed to be taken to encourage export of food products are as under:-

(A) *Short-term steps:* Schemes for market development, product promotion, quality upgradation, packaging improvement, competitive pricing, market intelligence, development of infrastructure, removal of constraints and simplification of procedures.

(B) *Long-term steps:* Increasing production and productivity, penetration into new markets, product development, promotion of export oriented processing industries, improving credibility and image of Indian food products.

Statement of export of major items of food products and the tentative targets for export during 1992-93

S.No.	Commodity	(Value in Crores)			
		1989-90 (Value)	1990-91 (Value)	1991-92 (Value)	1991-93 (Value)
1.	Rice	426.52	461.57	458.72	800
2.	Wheat	2.14	31.13	99.95	NI
3.	Other Cerals	1.96	2.77	4.12	50
4.	Spices	276.98	233.94	247.54	350
5.	Cashewanuts	365.07	441.40	511.80	650
6.	Groundnut	34.14	56.86	5.81	50
7.	Sugar & Molasses	32.51	37.57	93.02	200

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Commodity</i>	<i>1989-90</i>	<i>1990-91</i>	<i>1991-92</i>	<i>1991-93</i>
		<i>(Value)</i>	<i>(Value)</i>	<i>(Value)</i>	<i>(Value)</i>
8.	Fruits & Vegetables	201.90	213.25	237.18	350
9.	Processed Fruits & Vegetables	68.39	60.40	63.33	125
10.	Misc. Processed Items	142.09	152.30	167.01	200
11.	Meat & Preparations	113.70	139.84	155.62	225
12.	Mrine Products	687.18	960.01	989.09	1575
	Total	2352.58	2790.24	3033.19	4575

(source: Exports achieved-DGCI&S, Calcutta)

SHRI K. V. R. CHOWDARY: Will the hon. Minister reply as to when we are importing food products in large quantities on what basis we are exporting food groundnut? There is severe shortage. There is high praise in the market due to short supply.

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: The decision to export sensitive agricultural products is subject to the assessment made by the Ministry of Food about availability of food for the domestic market. The percentage of food products that are exported is so small still that it will have no impact on internal prices

Wherever, there is sensitive reaction to export of food products, the Government acts to ensure that it is reversed immediately.

We do not import any food products which we in turn export as well. the hon. Member may be referring to the specific question of wheat.

MR. SPEAKER: It is groundnut.

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: As far as groundnut is concerned, there was a failure of the crop last year. We were good exporter of groundnut up to last year. Due to failure or rainfall failure of crop we did not do

good export. The price problem, of groundnut is due to the failure of crop rather than export. Our export figure on groundnut are very bad this year.

SHRI K. V. R. CHOWDARY: When meat products are banned in the new export policy, how can you fulfil the target and what compensation you are going to give to those who invested in exporting beef which is not consumed in this country?

SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED: Sir, meat products as such are not banned under the new policy or the old policy. Beef certainly is banned for export. That is due to our special social and religious sentiments.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: In respect of sugar exports now the Export Government is thinking of giving it to the private persons also. If it is so, whether the Government export promotion policy will be applicable to these private persons and they will be given permission for export of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM):

Sugar has been exported through the I.S. G.I. E...I.C., an organisation formed by

the sugar industry. Last year, it is I.S.G.I.E.I.C. which exported sugar. The same policy continues. Whatever sugar is to be exported this year, the decision is to export it through I.S.G.I.E.I.C.

It is true that individual sugar mills have asked for permission to export sugar. But no decision has been taken to permit individual sugar mills to export.

SHRI SOBHANADREEWARA RAO VADDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the hon. Minister in view of the fact that there is lot of price differential in respect of coarse grains and eggs especially in the Gulf countries, what steps the Government is taking for export of more coarse grains to have more foreign exchange. Some of the Asian countries are taking advantage of the requirements of the developed countries in respect of these coarse grains which are produced by the dryland farmers. I seek information from the hon. Minister what concrete measures he is taking for export of coarse grains and eggs.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: As my colleague has said, as far as cereals are concerned, as far as food products are concerned, we will not export, unless there is a

clear exportable surplus. I do not think that we have an exportable surplus in coarse grains. If the Ministry of Agriculture tells me that there is an exportable surplus in coarse grains, then we will export coarse grains. But I do not think we have reached that stage yet.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Export of Fruits to Gulf Countries

*539 **SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHUZANTY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of fruits, particularly banana, exported to Gulf countries during the last three years;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the export of fruits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b): The desired information is as under:-

Qty. In MT
Val: Rs. Lakhs

	1988-89		1989-90		1990-91	
	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.	Qty.	Val.
Banana	121	8	348	18	23	3
Other Fruits	30114	3133	22843	2681	32209	4130
Total:	30235	3141	23191	2699	32232	4133

(c) Government accords high priority to exports of fruits. It has taken several steps to promote these. Promotional Bodies such as Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APFDA),

National Horticulture Board and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) have all been mobilised to promote exports of fruits. APEDA which is specifically charged with the respon-