



# TII TOBACCO NEWS

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**The Tobacco Institute of India**

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## REALIZING LEAF TOBACCO'S VAST POTENTIAL WILL AID INDIA'S AGRI EXPORTS

### India is A Leading Tobacco Exporter

- Exports of leaf tobacco and tobacco products garner foreign exchange earnings worth Rs. 6,500 crores a year.
- India exports tobacco to over 100 countries across the globe.

### FCV is the Main Exportable Tobacco

- More than half of Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) produced in India is exported, generating more than Rs.3,000 crores in foreign currency earnings annually.
- FCV (Cigarette) tobaccos constitute less than 30% of tobacco produced in India.
- Due to the small and shrinking share of tobacco consumption in the form of legal cigarettes (8%), non-cigarette tobacco varieties dominate production in India.

### Thriving Illicit Cigarette Trade Impacts FCV Tobaccos

- Growing illicit cigarette trade in India, induced by high taxation and overregulation; has led to the drop in legal cigarettes, severely impacting utilization of FCV tobacco.
- As contraband products do not use locally grown tobaccos, demand for domestic FCV tobaccos has fallen, leading to a massive drop in FCV production.

### India's Loss is A Gain for Other Tobacco Growing Nations

- Any drop in tobacco production in India merely incentivizes competitive leaf producing countries to grow more leaf tobacco and substitute Indian tobaccos in the world market.
- India has surrendered its advantageous and pre-eminent position in global tobacco production and exports.

### India Should Consolidate its Position in Global Leaf Tobacco Trade

- Although India currently grows more than 13% of the world's tobacco, its value share of the US\$ 11 billion global tobacco leaf exports trade is only 5%.
- If India aligns its production patterns with global demand, which is primarily for FCV tobacco, India would raise its share of export earnings substantially.
- For enhancing competitiveness of Indian tobaccos and boost exports, Government should provide export incentives to tobacco.

# HUGE EXPORT POTENTIAL OF INDIAN TOBACCOS

It is indeed heartening to see India making huge strides in agricultural exports in the recent years. Agricultural exports reached a historic high of US\$ 50 billion in the just ended financial year. Among other agri crops, Tobacco also has the potential to become a major export commodity for India, provided the cash crop is supported by favourable regulatory and export policies.

India is the world's second largest tobacco producer, and a leading exporter with exports of leaf tobacco and tobacco products generating annual foreign exchange earnings of around Rs. 6,500 crores.

Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) is the main exportable tobacco produced in India with more than half exported and the rest used in domestic cigarette manufacturing. As non-cigarette products and illegal cigarettes account for 92% of tobacco consumption in India, non-cigarette varieties dominate tobacco production in the country. Despite small and shrinking share of tobacco consumption in the form of legal cigarettes (8%), FCV tobacco exports alone garner foreign exchange earnings of around Rs. 3,000 crores annually.

Although India currently produces more than 13% of the world's tobacco, its value share of the US\$ 11 billion global tobacco leaf exports trade is only 5%. This is because exportable varieties viz. FCV tobacco, account for less than 30% of India's leaf tobacco production. If India aligns its production pattern with global demand, India will raise its share of export earnings substantially.

India has a huge potential to increase tobacco exports and to earn foreign exchange by claiming its rightful share in the world tobacco trade. To augment competitiveness of Indian tobaccos in the global market and to boost exports, Government should extend export incentives to tobacco in line with Government's thrust on promoting India's agri-exports.

In this issue of *TII Tobacco News*, we highlight the enormous export potential of Indian tobaccos besides providing a comprehensive coverage to the 21<sup>st</sup> *TII Tobacco Farmers' Awards* ceremony, held recently in Hunsur, Karnataka.

**Sharad Tandan**

# ENTERPRISING TOBACCO FARMERS HONOURED



The Tobacco Institute of India (TII) organized the 21<sup>st</sup> TII Tobacco Farmers' Awards function in Hunsur, Karnataka on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022. A total of 10 tobacco farmers from Karnataka were felicitated at the event for their outstanding performance in productivity and quality of the crop.

The Institute plans to hold a separate awards ceremony for the farmers in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in the coming months.

The awards ceremony was attended by Shri Prathap Simha, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Mysuru and Kodagu; Shri H. P. Manjunath, Hon'ble Member of the Legislative Assembly, Hunsur, Karnataka; and Shri K. Mahadeva, Hon'ble Member of the Legislative Assembly, Periyapatna, Karnataka.

Shri Y. Raghunadha Babu, Chairman, Tobacco Board; Shri M. Subrahmanyeswara Reddy, Member, Tobacco Board; Dr. S. Ramakrishnan, Head of CTRI Research Station, Hunsur, Karnataka; and Shri Javare Gowda, Farmer Leader from Karnataka were also present on the occasion.

Besides Industry representatives, officials of Tobacco Board and CTRI, around 700 tobacco farmers from the tobacco growing regions in Karnataka attended the Awards function.

The ceremony was held after a gap of more than two years due to the unprecedented Covid situation. The previous Awards ceremony was held in Mysuru in January 2020.

Instituted in 1999, the TII Tobacco Farmers' Awards seek to encourage the cigarette leaf tobacco farming community towards adoption of modern and scientific farming practices. These awards seek to encourage quality and global competitiveness of domestic cigarette tobaccos through adoption of contemporary farming practices.

The recipients of these awards are selected by an eminent panel of judges, comprising representatives of various bodies/agencies associated with tobacco farming and manufacturers of tobacco products. The criteria considered in the selection process include good agricultural practices like soil and water conservation,

integrated pest and crop management etc.

These awards cover all the tobacco growing regions in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana such as the Southern Black Cotton Soil (SBCS), Southern Light Soil (SLS), Northern Light Soil (NLS), Karnataka Light Soil (KLS) for FCV tobaccos and Vinukonda region for Burley tobaccos.

The Tobacco Institute of India Annual Awards Function also provides a platform to key stakeholders in the tobacco sector to meet and interact on issues of common interest regarding farming practices, tobacco crop quality, tobacco trade and regulatory policies.

### TII Farmer Awardees

Award	S. No.	Region	Farmer's Name	Father's Name	TAP	Village
<b>Best Farmer Awards</b>	1	KLS	Channabasappa	Nagappa	H. D. Kote – 1	Motha
	2	KLS	Kuchelegowda	Ujjani Gowda	Hunsur – 3	Seerenahally
	3	KLS	H. M. Paramesha	Mogannegowda	Periyapatna – 4	Hadlapura
	4	KLS	Raghu	Bore Gowda	Periyapatna – 5	Kothavally Koppal
	5	KLS	Suresh K. T.	Thamme Gowda	K. M. Pura – 62	Kottegala
	6	KLS	S. V. Yoganna	Vishakantappa	R. N. Pura – 7	Seebahally
<b>Recognition Awards</b>	1	KLS	Deva Naika	Manchanayka	Hunsur - 2	Gowdagere
	2	KLS	M. N. Ramachandra	Ninge Gowda	Hunsur – 64	M. P. Koppal
	3	KLS	Aslam Pasha	Shak Bhudan	Periyapatna – 6	Halaganahally
	4	KLS	Ramakrishna	Siddalingaiah	R. N. Pura – 63	Lakkikuppe

*KLS - Karnataka Light Soil*

# Press Coverage of TII Awards Ceremony

## Best tobacco farmer awards presented in Hunsur

MYSURU | APRIL 28, 2022

The Tobacco Institute of India (TII) on Thursday organised the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the Tobacco Farmers' awards to give recognition to enterprising farmers for having demonstrated the benefits arising out of contemporary farming practices, leading to enhanced productivity levels.

The awards ceremony was attended by Mysuru MP Prathap Simha, Hunsur MLA H.P. Maniunath, and Perivapatna MLA K. Mahadeva.

## ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಶೀಘ್ರ ಸಿಹಿ ಸುದ್ದಿ | ಸಂಸದ ಪ್ರತಾಪ್ ಸಿಂಹ ಭರವಸೆ ದಂಡಶುಲ್ಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ರದ್ದತಿಗೆ ಕ್ರಮ

ದಂಡಶುಲ್ಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ರದ್ದತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ತೆರಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಕಡಿತಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು ಸಂಸತ್ತಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಚರ್ಚಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು ಸಂಸದ ಪ್ರತಾಪ್ ಸಿಂಹ ಭರವಸೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ದಂಡಶುಲ್ಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ರದ್ದತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ತೆರಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಕಡಿತಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು ಸಂಸತ್ತಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಚರ್ಚಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು ಸಂಸದ ಪ್ರತಾಪ್ ಸಿಂಹ ಭರವಸೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.



ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಶೀಘ್ರ ಸಿಹಿ ಸುದ್ದಿ | ಸಂಸದ ಪ್ರತಾಪ್ ಸಿಂಹ ಭರವಸೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

## ದಂಡ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ರದ್ದತಿಗಾಗಿ ಸಂಸದ

21ನೇ ಟೊಬ್ಯಾಕೋ ಫಾರ್ಮರ್ಸ್ ಅವಾರ್ಡ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತಾಪ್ ಸಿಂಹ ಭರವಸೆ



## ಹೊಗೆಸೊಪ್ಪಿಗೆ ಅಂತಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ

ಹೊಗೆಸೊಪ್ಪಿಗೆ ಅಂತಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದೆ. ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಹೊಗೆಸೊಪ್ಪಿಗೆ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದೆ. ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಹೊಗೆಸೊಪ್ಪಿಗೆ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯು ಹೊಗೆಸೊಪ್ಪಿಗೆ ಅಂತಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದೆ.

## Tobacco Institute of India Awarded 10 Farmers for Their Exceptional Tobacco Harvests

The Tobacco Institute of India has awarded several farmers for yielding good tobacco harvests. Kritika Madhukar | 30 April, 2022

On Thursday, the Tobacco Institute of India (TII) honored ten exceptional tobacco growers with the best farmer and recognition award for exceptional performance, increased productivity, and adoption of the best agricultural methods.



## ತಂಬಾಕು: ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಲೈಸೆನ್ಸ್ ಸಿಗುವ ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ

ಸಂಸದ ಪ್ರತಾಪ್ ಸಿಂಹ ಹೇಳಿಕೆ | ಹುಣಸೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅತ್ಯುತ್ತಮ ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಪ್ರದಾನ

21ನೇ ಟೊಬ್ಯಾಕೋ ಫಾರ್ಮರ್ಸ್ ಅವಾರ್ಡ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಪ್ರದಾನ



## ಹುಣಸೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ 10 ಅತ್ಯುತ್ತಮ ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಪ್ರದಾನ

# ದಂಡ ಶೇ 15ರಿಂದ 5ಕ್ಕೆ ಇಳಿಕೆ

ಹುಣಸೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ 10 ಅತ್ಯುತ್ತಮ ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಪ್ರದಾನ. ದಂಡ ಶೇ 15ರಿಂದ 5ಕ್ಕೆ ಇಳಿಕೆ.



## 10 Innovative Tobacco Farmers Receive Award From Tobacco Institute of India

The Tobacco Institute of India (TII) held the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the Tobacco Farmers' Awards on Thursday to honour innovative farmers who have proven the benefits of modern agricultural methods that have resulted in increased output.

Chintu Das | 29 April, 2022

The Tobacco Institute of India (TII) held the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the Tobacco Farmers' Awards on Thursday to honour innovative farmers who have proven the benefits of modern agricultural methods that have resulted in increased output.

Mysuru MP Prathap Simha, Hunsur MLA H.P.

## Tobacco Institute of India fetes farmers

Mysuru: The Tobacco Institute of India (TII) on Thursday felicitated 10 outstanding tobacco farmers with best farmer and recognition award for adopting best farming practices, exemplary performance and enhanced productivity

Channabasappa of Motha village, Kuchelegowda of Seeranahalli, HM Parameshwara of Hadlapura, Raju of Kothavally Koppal, Suresh KT of Kottegal and SV Yoganna of Seebally were presented with the best farmer award.

Recognition awards were conferred on Devanaika of Gowdagere village, MN Ramchandra of MP Koppal, Aslam Pasha of Halaganahally and Ramakrishna of Lokikuppe.

Tii director Sharad Tandon appreciated the efforts of farmers for their socio-economic contribution to the country by taking up tobacco cultivation which not

## ಹುಣಸೂರು: ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಸನ್ಮಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ

ಹುಣಸೂರು, ಎ.29: ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಸನ್ಮಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ. ಹುಣಸೂರು, ಎ.29: ತಂಬಾಕು ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಸನ್ಮಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ.

## Glimpses of 21<sup>st</sup> TII Tobacco Farmers' Awards Function



*Lighting  
of the Lamp*



*Hon'ble Member of  
Parliament,  
Shri Prathap Simha,  
addressing the farmers*



*Hundreds of farmers in  
audience*

## Glimpses of 21<sup>st</sup> TII Tobacco Farmers' Awards Function

*Awardees of this year*



*Shri K. T. Suresh bags the Best Farmer Award*



*Shri Aslam Pasha is being honoured with the Recognition Award*



## India's Agri Exports Reach Historic High

According to a recent statement of the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, India's agricultural exports have touched USD 50 billion in 2021-22 which is the highest level achieved ever. Provisional figures released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) indicate that the agricultural exports have increased by approximately 20% during 2021-22.

As per the data, staples like rice (\$ 9.65 billion), wheat (\$ 2.19 billion), sugar (\$ 4.6 billion), and other cereals (\$ 1.08 billion) were the highest earners during the year.

"The growth rate is remarkable, as it is over and above the growth of 17.66%, at \$41.87 billion, achieved in 2020-21 and has been achieved in spite of unprecedented logistical challenges in the form of high freight rates, container shortages etc.," stated the Ministry.

The Ministry attributed this impressive export performance to the COVID-19 outbreak during the first quarter of 2020 which resulted in an increased demand for staples, providing an opportunity for increasing agriculture exports. Even during the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, India is supplying wheat and other food grains in large quantities, thus brightening the country's export prospects in the current financial year.

### Tobacco can be a Major Export Commodity

Tobacco has the potential to become a major export commodity for India provided the cash crop is supported by favorable regulatory and export policies.

India is the world's second largest tobacco producer and a major exporter in the world. Exports of leaf tobacco and tobacco products generate foreign exchange earnings worth Rs. 6,500 crores per annum.

Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco is the only variety which is in demand globally and India exports more than half of the FCV produced in the country. FCV tobacco exports alone garner foreign exchange earnings of around Rs. 3,000 crores annually.

The growing illicit cigarette trade induced by excessive taxation and overregulation; the resultant drop in legal cigarettes have had a severe impact on the Indian FCV tobacco production. In fact, from a normal crop size of 316 million kgs in 2013-14, the crop size has shrunk to 201 million kgs in 2020-21.

Drop in tobacco production in India merely incentivizes competitive leaf producing countries like Brazil, Zimbabwe, Vietnam etc. to increase their production of leaf tobacco, substituting Indian tobaccos in the world market. In fact, the Government of Zimbabwe has announced "Tobacco Value Chain Transformation Strategy", focusing on expanding FCV tobacco production from the current 200 million kgs to 300 million kgs.

Given the stress on FCV Tobacco production in the country due to the growing illegal cigarette trade, resulting from excessive regulation and taxes, and withdrawal of export incentives, India has surrendered its advantageous and pre-eminent position in global tobacco production and exports.

Tobacco exports were eligible for various export incentives under export promotion schemes under the Foreign Trade Policy for 2009-14. However, those export incentives were not extended to tobacco and tobacco products under the Foreign Trade Policy for 2015-20. This resulted in export of jobs and impacted livelihood of lakhs of Indian tobacco farmers.

Although India currently grows more than 13% of the world's tobacco, its value share of the US\$ 11 billion global tobacco leaf exports trade is only 5%. India has a huge potential to increase its share of global tobacco trade and to fetch the country precious foreign exchange earnings by claiming its rightful share in the world trade.

For maintaining competitiveness of Indian tobaccos and to provide relief to the farming community, government should include tobacco under the current tax rebate scheme RoDTEP to encourage exports.

**India's agriculture exports cross \$50 bn in FY22, the highest ever, says Commerce Ministry**

To ensure that the farmers benefit from exports, the Department of Commerce has made special efforts to provide export market linkage directly to farmers and FPOs.

The agricultural exports have grown by 19.92% in FY22 to touch \$ 50.21 billion. The growth rate is remarkable as it is over and above the growth of 17.66%, at \$41.87 billion, achieved in 2020-21.

**'कृषि उत्पादों का निर्यात 2021-22 में रिकॉर्डे 50 अरब डालर से ऊपर: वाणिज्य विभाग'**

वर्ष दिल्ली/जीए, 6 अप्रैल (एनआईएनएन): समुद्री और वाणिज्यिक उत्पादों सहित देश से कृषि उत्पादों का निर्यात वर्ष 2021-22 में 50 अरब डालर को पार कर गया है जो एक नया कीर्तिमान है।



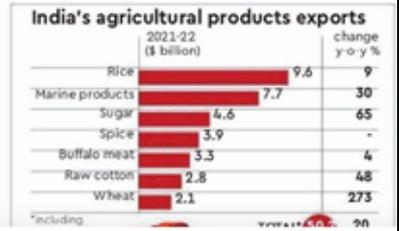
वा. वाणिज्य मंत्रालय ने कहा है कि इन उत्पादों के निर्यात में सुविधा से पंजाब, हरियाणा, उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, पश्चिम बंगाल, छत्तीसगढ़ जैसे राज्यों के किसानों को लाभ हुआ है। मध्य प्रदेश, कर्नाटक, आंध्र प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र आदि। भारत ने वाणिज्य के निर्यात बाजार के सफल 50 प्रतिशत पर कब्जा कर लिया है।

वाणिज्यिक आसुच या पूर्व सचिव की। यह निर्देश साल 2021-22 में ही जारी किया गया है।

**Agriculture exports grow 20% to hit \$50 bn in 2021-22**

SANDIP DAS  
New Delhi, April 6

INDIA'S EXPORTS OF agricultural products, including marine and plantation products, for 2021-22 hit a record at \$50 billion. That was up 20% on year.



As per the provisional figures released by DGCIIS on Wednesday, the export growth has been achieved mostly because of a surge in shipments of rice, marine products, sugar...

**Farm exports exceed \$50 billion**

SANDIP DAS  
New Delhi, April 6

India is expected to achieve a record \$50 billion of agriculture exports in FY22, driven by a host of items that includes cereals (rice and wheat), marine products, spices and sugar, according to commerce minister Piyush Goyal.

India is expected to achieve a record \$50 billion of agriculture exports in FY22, driven by a host of items that includes cereals (rice and wheat), marine products, spices and sugar, according to commerce minister Piyush Goyal.

"Higher agricultural exports signify the ability of Indian farmers to meet the requirements of the US, since over 21, 2022, had already crossed \$46.59 billion. "I am sure that in the next 10 days, exports will have topped \$50 billion," Goyal said.

On wheat exports, he said Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh are emerging as major destinations for wheat exports. Also, the state governments agreed to waive off the mandi tax on exported wheat from the state. "Wheat exports will pick up from all ports in the coming days," another official said. In 2018-19, the central government unveiled an amnesty policy that made it difficult for wheat exports to \$50 billion by 2022. It also allowed to do...

**Farm exports topped \$50 bn in FY22, driven by cereals, marine products**

Goyal says wheat exports in FY23 will be over 10 million tonnes. India is estimated to have achieved a record \$50 billion in farm exports in FY22, driven by a host of items that includes cereals (rice and wheat), marine products, spices and sugar, among others, commerce minister Piyush Goyal said today.

**418 अरब डालर का रिकार्ड निर्यात**

सप्ताह के दिक्कतों के बीच वित्त वर्ष 2021-22 में निर्यात के मोर्चे पर देश ने रचा नया कीर्तिम

सप्ताह के दिक्कतों के बीच वित्त वर्ष 2021-22 में निर्यात के मोर्चे पर देश ने रचा नया कीर्तिम। 40 अरब डालर का रिकार्ड निर्यात कर चुका है, पिछले साल के मुकाबले 14.5 अरब डालर अतिरिक्त।



40 अरब डालर का रिकार्ड निर्यात कर चुका है, पिछले साल के मुकाबले 14.5 अरब डालर अतिरिक्त। 15,000 करोड़ का नूतन निर्यात कर चुका है, पिछले साल के मुकाबले 20 अरब डालर अतिरिक्त। 2021-22 में निर्यात के मुकाबले 20 अरब डालर अतिरिक्त। 2021-22 में निर्यात के मुकाबले 20 अरब डालर अतिरिक्त। 2021-22 में निर्यात के मुकाबले 20 अरब डालर अतिरिक्त।

**India's agriculture exports cross \$50 billion mark for first time**

As per the provisional figures, agricultural exports rose to USD 50.21 billion in 2021-22, which is 19.92 per cent higher compared to the previous year. New Delhi: Exports of agricultural products crossed the USD 50 billion mark for the first time during the financial year 2021-22 on the back of healthy growth in the exports of sugar, rice, wheat and other cereals, government data showed on Wednesday.

**India's agriculture exports touch record high of \$50 billion; 273% growth in wheat exports**

India has achieved the highest-ever exports for staples like rice, wheat, sugar, other cereals and meat, with wheat exports jumping nearly four-fold from \$568 million in 2020-21 to touch \$2.12 billion in 2021-22. Moreover, the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in increased demand for staples, providing an opportunity for increasing agriculture exports.

**India's agri-exports cross 50 billion dollar for the year 2021-22**

India's agri exports has crossed 50 billion dollar for the year 2021-22, notwithstanding logistical challenges posed by COVID-19 pandemic. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has scripted a new history by exporting agricultural and processed food products to the tune of 25.6 billion dollar, which is 51 per cent of the India's total agriculture exports of 50 billion dollar.

Besides, the APEDA has also surpassed its own export target of 23.7 billion dollar for the financial year 2021-22 by registering shipments of 25.6 billion dollar. As per the provisional figures released by DGCI&S, the agricultural exports have grown by 19.92 per cent during 2021-22 to touch 50.21 billion dollar.

**India's agricultural products exports cross \$50 billion for first time**

New Delhi [India], April 6 (ANI): Exports of agricultural products from India crossed the USD 50 billion mark for the first time during the financial year 2021-22 on the back of healthy growth in the exports of sugar, rice, wheat and other cereals, the government data showed on Wednesday.

**Exports of agricultural products for the year 2021-22 cross 50 billion dollar mark**

07-04-2022 | 12:45 pm  
Exports of agricultural products, including marine, for the year 2021-22 have crossed the 50 billion dollar mark, which is the highest level ever achieved in it.

The Commerce and Industry Ministry in a statement on Wednesday said, as per the provisional figures released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, DGCI&S, the agricultural exports have grown by 19.92 percent during 2021-22. This achievement over the past two years will go a long way in realising the Prime Minister's vision of improving farmers' income.

The Ministry said, the highest ever exports have been achieved for staples like rice, wheat, sugar, other cereals, and meat which resulted in benefiting farmers in many states. This achievement is the result of sustained efforts on the part of the Department of Commerce and its various export

**Agriculture exports touch historic high of \$50 billion**

As per the provisional figures released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), the agricultural exports have grown by 19.92% during 2021-22 to touch \$50.21 billion.

Exports of agricultural products (including marine and plantation products) for the year 2021-22 have crossed \$50 billion, highest level ever achieved for agriculture exports, the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry said in a statement on Wednesday.

As per the provisional figures released by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), the agricultural exports have grown by 19.92 per cent during 2021-22 to touch \$50.21 billion.

"The growth rate is remarkable as it is over and above the growth of 17.66 per cent, at \$41.87 billion, achieved in 2020-21 and has been achieved in spite of unprecedented logistical challenges in the form of high freight rates, container shortages etc.," the statement noted.

# DOMESTIC



## Tobacco Board reduces penalty for renewal of licences

The Tobacco Board has reduced the penalty levied for the renewal of licences of farmers who had sold less than 50 per cent of the authorised quota last year. The Tobacco Board has cited “low yields attained during 2021-22 crop season” as the reason. While tobacco growers selling less than 50 per cent of the declared quantity will have to pay a penalty of ₹1,500 for every barn, tobacco farmers who had marketed less than 25 per cent of the declared quantity will have to pay a penalty of ₹ 2,500 for every barn to renew their registrations. The Tobacco Board had fixed a crop size of 97 million kg for Karnataka during crop season 2021-22 and the quota fixed for each barn was 1,750 kg.

**Source:** *The Hindu*, May 4, 2022.

## Give bidi cigarette rollers a voice to find new jobs, researchers say

India’s bidi cigarette workers need to be at the heart of discussions about finding alternatives to working in the tobacco industry, according to a new study. Bidis are hand-rolled leaf cigarettes and are the main way tobacco is smoked in India. Ninety percent of workers are women who largely work from home and earn a lower-than-average wage of approximately ₹1.50 (about \$1.88) for rolling up to 1,000 bidis each day. New research by the Bidi Workers’ Alternative Livelihoods Project — which includes partners in India, the UK and the U.S.— has found that despite awareness of the industry’s adverse effects, bidi rollers saw the work as convenient in the absence of different jobs that could fit around other commitments such as cooking or childcare. Workers would be more inclined to consider other work if they were involved

in shaping the alternative employment available. This would help create new jobs that provided workers with better conditions and suited their personal circumstances, the researchers said.

**Source:** *Phys.org*, April 27, 2022.

## Smugglers still prefer trains for transportation

Trains continue to be a preferred mode of transportation of contraband goods for smugglers, and this fact is borne out by data shared by the Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Government Railway Police (GRP). According to the data, apart from narcotic substances, the smuggled items include gold, foreign cigarettes, foreign garments, areca nuts etc. According to the GRP, around 3,000 packets of contraband foreign cigarettes were seized in 2021 from various railway stations of the State, which marked a sharp increase from the 390 packets seized in 2020. However, the low amount of seizures could be attributed to the severe COVID-19 situation. The corresponding figure for 2019 was 4,410 packets of foreign cigarettes. On the other hand, the RPF seized around 2.22 lakh sticks of contraband foreign cigarettes from the Guwahati Railway Station in 2021 alone.

**Source:** *The Sentinel*, April 18, 2022.

## Teaming up to tackle smuggling

On February 11 this year, FICCI’s Committee Against Smuggling Counterfeiting Activities Destroying the Economy (CASCADE) launched the first ever Anti-Smuggling Day to raise its voice against the menace of smuggling across the globe. This comes at a time when illicit trade continues to grow exponentially amid globalisation of trade and finance, and rapid changes in technology, giving criminals the

opportunity to create new mechanisms for trafficking contraband, laundering money, and engaging in other large-scale economic crimes... As an alternative to paper currency, gold and cigarettes are the most favoured for money laundering and illicit trade... There is mounting evidence on the economic and social losses caused by smuggling. In India, a 2019 FICCI CASCADE report stated that the top five sectors where smuggling was rampant were textiles, tobacco products, readymade garments, capital goods, and consumer electronics, which were damaging the economy to the tune of Rs. 1.17 trillion. The Covid pandemic has not deterred smugglers... Combating smuggling requires a systematic understanding of the nature and scope of the problem and no nation can do this in isolation. Therefore, it is critical that governments join hands to prioritise actions and create a collective global response which in the years to come, will blunt the impact of this lethal adversary.

**Source:** *The Financial Express*, April 13, 2022.

### Two arrested with foreign cigarettes worth 1.25 crores in Gorakhpur

A team of Directorate of Revenue-Intelligence (DRI) has seized seven lakh sticks of cigarettes from a truck

enroute New Delhi from Gorakhpur. The cost of the seized cigarettes is said to be Rs 1.25 crore. According to the DRI team, the consignment of foreign cigarettes was brought to India via Myanmar, was loaded in a truck from Kohima, Nagaland and sent to New Delhi. To escape from the enforcement team, the smugglers loaded old tires on the top of the truck and placed a consignment of cigarettes under it.

**Source:** *Translated from Amar Ujala*, April 12, 2022.

### Huge consignment of foreign cigarettes seized in Old Delhi area

Customs officials have caught a huge consignment of 3.93 lakh cigarettes of various brands smuggled from abroad in Old Delhi area and arrested two persons. The market value of these confiscated cigarettes has been estimated to be around Rs 78 lakh. Delhi-based Customs (Preventive) Commissionerate gave this information in a statement on Twitter on April 11. The seized consignment consisted of Win, Rully River, Ace Light, Mond, Pine, Black and Paris brands of cigarettes. Two people have been arrested in this matter. The Customs Department has said that the matter is being further investigated.

**Source:** *Translated from UniVarta*, April 11, 2022.

## GLOBAL



### Report: Counterfeiting poses serious risk

The Intellectual Property Crime Threat Assessment 2022 report by the EU Intellectual Property Office and Europol shows that piracy and counterfeiting pose a serious threat to the European economy as well as people's health and well-being. Imports of fake and illicit goods reached €119 billion (\$129.61 billion) in 2019, which represented 5.8 percent of all

goods entering the EU zone. More than 66 million counterfeit items were seized by EU authorities in 2022 as pharmaceuticals, food items, cosmetics and toys, among other goods, were targeted by criminals and counterfeiters who took advantage of the pandemic. Tobacco products, too, feature prominently among counterfeited products.

**Source:** *International Hologram Manufacturers Association via TMA*, April 12, 2022.

### **Tobacco products generated over 1 billion EUR positive contribution to Romania's trade balance**

According to the latest data published by the National Institute of Statistics, the total value of exported processed tobacco products, such as cigarettes and tobacco heating products consumables, was 1.34 billion EUR in 2021, representing almost half of the total exports in the food, beverages and tobacco category. BAT Romania, the local tobacco market leader, exports about 60% of the volumes produced in Ploiești, where the group's second largest factory in Europe is located. The National Institute of Statistics data show that in 2021 tobacco products accounted for about half (48%) of the total exports value in the food, beverages, and tobacco category. The value of tobacco products (cigarettes and heated tobacco consumables) exports exceeded by 50% the value of sunflower seeds exports (844 million euros) in 2021 – the difference is more significant as cigarettes are finished products, while sunflower seeds are exported as raw material. The total value of imports of raw and processed tobacco was about 341 million EUR, which means that tobacco had a positive contribution to Romania's trade balance of over 1 billion EUR.

**Source:** *Business Review*, April 7, 2022.

### **Illicit tobacco products, cigarette trade on the rise in Turkey**

Illicit tobacco products and cigarette trade and their consumption have been on the rise in Turkey, costing the state billions of Turkish Liras in tax revenues. It

is estimated that the size of illicit tobacco products accounts for more than 20 percent of all trade volume in this industry. Since those products are untaxed, the state lost some 30 billion Turkish Liras (around \$2 billion) in revenues in 2021 alone, Daily Milliyet reported. The share of illicit tobacco products and smuggled cigarettes in total sales volume is believed to be more than 20 percent and around 3 percent, respectively. Thanks to strict inspections and other measures taken, the share of illicit trading of those products was as low as 1 percent in total volume but started to increase again, which some say may be linked to the high tax levied on cigarettes and tobacco products.

**Source:** *Hurriyet Daily News*, April 6, 2022.

### **Tobacco market to reach \$907.66 billion**

The value of the global tobacco products market will reach \$907.66 billion by 2028 from \$782.02 billion in 2021, according to a new study published by Insight Partners. It is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 2.2 percent from 2021 to 2028. The authors of the report expect the Middle Eastern and African tobacco markets to grow at the fastest CAGR during the forecast period. They attribute this growth to the manufacturers' focus on introducing new cigarette flavors and low-nicotine formulations. The authors of the report expect new products, such as e-cigarettes and heat-not-burn devices, to drive growth as well.

**Source:** *Insight Partners via TMA*, April 4, 2022.

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