

# Tobacco exports record 20% growth, FCV most in demand

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Vijayawada: Tobacco exports reported over 20% growth in the first quarter of the current fiscal.

This is considered unprecedented in recent history. Making the most of the increasing demand in global markets, traders are shipping huge stocks from India.

According to official information, Flu-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco, which is premium variety of leaf, reported 499 crore exports during April, 458 crore in May and 523 crore in June. The total FCV tobacco exports touched 1,480 crore in the first three months while it was around 1,249 during the last fiscal in the corresponding period. The volume of exports jumped by nearly 231 crore in the first quarter.

The exports in terms of quantity too reported decent growth during the current fiscal as exports have been over and over ten thousand million kgs each month.

Interestingly, non-FCV varieties have also fetched decent orders from the global markets. The traders from India exported non-FCV stocks worth 180 crore in April, it zoomed to 383 crore by May. In fact, non-FCV exports jumped to a record value of 486 crore in June. The export value of non-FCV category during the first quarter of 2023 is just around 600 crore while it jumped to 1,000 crore during the current fiscal. This is nearly 70 percent jump in the non-FCV category.

Sources said that as per the Ministry of Commerce report, the unmanufactured tobacco and tobacco refuse exports jumped to \$123 million in the first quarter from \$92 million during the corresponding period last fiscal.

This segment has also witnessed a 32 percent jump.

Tobacco and coffee are two major commodities that reported export growth of over 30 percent during the current fiscal while all other commodities are struggling with meagre growth rate.

"The overall trend of exports is very positive, and we are expecting it to continue in the coming months," said a leading tobacco exporter.

Farmers are elated with the growing demand for Indian stock as they are likely to fetch better prices during the next season.