

Government of India  
Ministry of Commerce and Industry  
Department of Commerce

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 854**  
ANSWERED ON 06/02/2026

**DEVELOPING DISTRICTS AS EXPORT HUBS**

854. SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:

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

- (a) the progress made so far under the “*Districts as Export Hubs*” initiative, which aims to connect agricultural districts to the national export value chain;
- (b) the details of the districts identified for agricultural exports in Madhya Pradesh and the infrastructural gaps identified with regard to testing facilities, traceability, logistics, and market access in those districts; and
- (c) whether Narmadapuram district, which is identified in the State's planning documents as a district with the potential for exporting crops such as Basmati rice, has been included under this initiative, and if so, the specific export facilitation measures proposed for the district?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) The *Districts as Export Hubs (DEH)* initiative of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Department of Commerce, seeks to promote exports, manufacturing, and employment generation at the district level. The progress achieved under the initiative includes:

- Identification of export-potential products and services in 734 districts across the country;
- Constitution of State Export Promotion Committees (SEPCs) and District Export Promotion Committees (DEPCs) in all 36 States/UTs;
- Preparation of State Export Strategies in 28 States/UTs;
- Preparation of District Export Action Plans for 590 districts.

DGFT Regional Authorities, in coordination with State Governments and stake holders, are undertaking regular export promotion, capacity-building, and outreach activities at the district level.

(b) The list of districts in Madhya Pradesh where products and services have been identified under the Districts as Export Hubs initiative is attached as **Annexure-I**.

Based on deliberations of the District Export Promotion Committees, the key infrastructural gaps identified in the districts include inadequacies in cold-chain infrastructure (cold storages, pack houses, and reefer vans), limited availability of testing laboratories, supply-chain and logistics bottlenecks, power supply constraints, absence of Common Facility Centres (CFCs), and gaps in access to quality inputs, traceability systems, and market linkages.

(c) Narmadapuram district has been included under the *Districts as Export Hubs* initiative.

Under the District Export Action Plan, the District Export Promotion Committee of Narmadapuram has identified district-specific export opportunities and proposed focused facilitation measures, inter alia, including:

- Promotion of value-added agricultural and GI-based products, including efforts for GI tagging of Kodo–Kutki;
- Commodity aggregation and cluster-based approaches to enable scale and bulk exports;
- Strengthening branding, design, and market access support through professional agencies and e-commerce platforms;
- Capacity-building of exporters, MSMEs, and farmer groups through training and outreach programmes;
- Creation of export-enabling infrastructure, including testing facilities, certification support, and a Common Facility Centre (CFC);
- Improving logistics connectivity through partnerships with logistics providers and use of ICD and rail-based transport linkages; and
- Facilitating buyer–seller meets and market linkages to connect district producers with domestic and international markets.

DGFT Regional Authority, Bhopal, in coordination with the State Government and other stakeholders, is actively supporting export outreach and facilitation activities in the district.

**Annexure-I.**

**Annexure referred to in reply to part-(b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No 854  
for answer on 06/02/2026**

S.No	District	Products
1	Narmadapuram	Clothes, Handicraft items, Basmati Rice
2	Agar Malwa	Orange
3	Alirajpur	Handmade jewellery, Corn, Nurjahan Mangoes, Musli
4	Anuppur	Sesame seeds, Caustic soda, Strawberries, Kodo Kutki
5	Ashoknagar	Chanderi sarees, Jewellery box
6	Balaghat	Manganese, Bauxite, Ginger, Banana
7	Barwani	Cotton, Chilli, Ginger, Banana
8	Betul	Jaggery, Timber, Food Processing, Rice
9	Bhind	Mustard, Chocolate, LEDs
10	Bhopal	Pharma Products ,Heavy Electrical Goods & Turbines, Zari Zardosi, Jute Products
11	Burhanpur	Pomegranate, Banana and Banana fiber, Oilseeds, Food Processing
12	Chhatarpur	Handmade crafts
13	Chindwara	Orange
14	Damoh	Onion, Wooden furniture, Pulses
15	Datia	Raw cotton and yarn, Black gram, Wheat
16	Dewas	Pharma products, Machinery spares, Potato
17	Dhar (Pithampur)	FIBC, Plastic products, Automobiles, Garments
18	Dindori	Iron and bamboo handicrafts, Ayurvedic preparations, Gond painting
19	Guna	Jute bags, Minerals or Chemical Fertilizers, Coriander
20	Gwalior	Potato, Durries, Rubber tyres, Transformer components

21	Harda	Wheat Flour, Teak Wood, Mung Dal, Palmleaf articles
22	Indore	Onion, Potato, Paper & Paper Products, Pharma, Garments
23	Jabalpur	Readymade Garments & Hosiery, Green Pea & Dal, Agro Products, Marble Products
24	Jhabua	Maize flour, Baskets made from bamboo, Neem, Safed Musli
25	Katni	Bricks, Artificial jewellery
26	Khargone	Pomegranate, Cottonraw, Chilly, Chickpeas, PP Bag
27	Khandwa	Pomegranate, Onion
28	Mandla	Kodo-Kutki, Dolomite Products, Tourism, Handicrafts
29	Mandsaur	Onion, Garlic, Vegetables
30	Morena	Wood-based, Metal sculptures, Edible oil
31	Narsinghpur	Soya oil, Mango, Jaggery, Pital handicraft
32	Neemuch	Coriander Seeds, Garlic, Ashwagandha, Leather belts
33	Niwari	Glass fibres, Soya-bean oil and its fractions, Peanuts
34	Panna	Crafts, Indian Gooseberry (Amla)
35	Raisen	Rice & Agro products
36	Rajgarh	Dolomite, Sisalcraft, Steel sheets and non-alloy steel, Orange
37	Ratlam	Kabuli Chana, Groundnut, Cotton, Soya bean & its products
38	Rewa	Optical fibrecable, Hydro electric power turbine, Cement, Turmeric
39	Sagar	Onion, Tyres, Petro chemicals, Agricultural Equipment
40	Satna	Footwear, Cement, Electric capacitor, Onion
41	Sehore	Wheat Flour, Farm Equipment, Paneer, Textile
42	Seoni	Black Stone, Rice, Khowa, Cotton
43	Shahdol	Clay, Paper products, Turmeric

44	Shajapur	Orange
45	Sheopur	Injection moulded plastics, Honey, Guava
46	Shivpuri	Iron works, Textiles, Forest produce, Agro produce, Peanuts
47	Sidhi	Durries, Leather belts, Arhar Pulse, Mahua
48	Singrauli	Water gel & emulsion explosives, Butter tree
49	Tikamgarh	Bell Metal Ware of Datiaand Tikamgarh, Ceramic articles
50	Ujjain	Crafts, Ceramic idols & sculptures, Onion
51	Umaria	Bambooc rafts, Soya, Ecotourism, Butter tree
52	Vidisha	Sharbati Wheat, Gram, Handloom Fabric, Jute, Agricultural Equipment

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