

MINIMUM EXPORT PRICE AT \$490/TONNE, DUTY ON NON-BASMATI EXEMPTED

India Removes Export Ban on Non-basmati Rice

Levy on parboiled rice, husked and paddy rice also reduced to 10%

Our Bureau

New Delhi: India on Saturday removed the blanket ban on exports of non-basmati white rice and imposed a minimum export price (MEP) of \$490 per tonne.

The country has also exempted non-basmati white rice from export duty and reduced the levy on parboiled rice and husked and paddy rice to 10%.

The export duty cut, notified late on Friday, follows a recommendation in this regard by the rice federation consulting committee as the country now has surplus stocks of non-basmati rice, and a stable inflation.

In July, the government had set



up the committee under the commerce and industry ministry to look into the issues pertaining to rice exports.

“The export policy for non-basmati white rice (semi-milled or wholly-milled rice, whether or not polished or gazed)... is amended from prohibited to free, subject to MEP of \$490 per tonne with immediate effect and until further orders,” the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) said in a notification.

In July 2023, New Delhi had prohibited the export of non-basmati white rice but had said exports would be allowed on the basis of permission granted to other countries to meet their food security

needs and based on requests from those countries. It has exported rice to Nepal, Mauritius, Namibia and other African nations.

ET reported last week that the UK, US and Japan among others had recently asked India when it planned to lift or ease the current export ban on non-basmati white rice and if the country was considering an export tax in its place.

India exported \$852 million worth of non-basmati white rice in FY24 with Kenya, Mozambique and Cameroon being the top export destinations. In April-July this fiscal, the country exported non-basmati rice worth \$188.86 million with most shipments to Malaysia and Guinea.