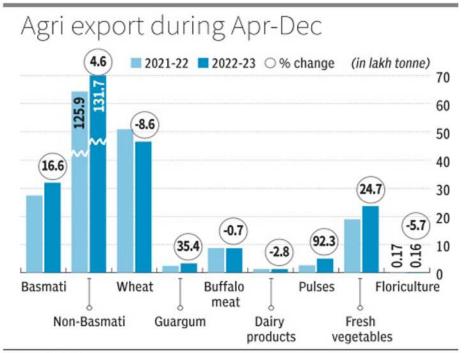
## Agri exports up 12% to \$19.7b in Apr-Dec



Source: DGCIS

## Prabhudatta Mishra

New Delhi

A 12 per cent increase in the export of major agriculture and processed products during the first three quarters of the current fiscal has buoyed the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to target a record \$26-29 billion in this fiscal, against \$24.76 billion in 2021-22.

"Since our (APEDA products) exports have already reached nearly \$20 billion, we will exceed the target and also increase from the previous year's level. Unless there is a global slowdown, we are set to cross \$27 billion this year and may reach up to \$29 billion," said M Angamuthu, Chairman, APEDA.

## REACHABLE TARGET

The agency, which contributed half of the \$50.21 billion in the total export of agriculture and allied sectors during 2021-22, is responsible for all agri products, divided into 27 categories, excluding tea, cof-

fee, spices and marine products.

Exports have jumped to \$19.69 billion during April-December of the current fiscal from \$17.51 billion a year ago. The government has set a target of \$23.56 billion for the export of APEDA products during FY 2022-23. Due to the weakening of the rupee, exports surged by 20.4 per cent to ₹1.57 lakh crore from ₹1.3 lakh crore a year-ago.

Angamuthu said the focus the top 10 potential products including basmati and non-basmati rice and top 10 export destinations including the US, UAE and China has helped to achieve the growth, so far. "Efforts are being made to push exports in further 40 potential target destinations," he said. In view of the International Year of Millets in 2023, APEDA has planned an aggressive campaign for the promotion of these Shri Anna (nutri cereal) and its value-added products in select markets for boosting export, he said. Besides, APEDA has chalked out several activities in States to boost quality produce.