SECTION 9: AYUSH RELATED FOREIGN TRADE

AYUSH medicaments, medicinal plants and their by-products constitute an important part of the Indian Foreign Trade. This section on AYUSH related foreign trade provides a brief overview of India’s foreign trade in respect of these AYUSH related products. A continuous growth in Export over Import as related to AYUSH Products has been observed during last ten years that signify the continuous increasing interest in AYUSH system of medicines outside the boundary of the territory.

Prior to 2003-04, for the purpose of foreign trade, AYUSH medicants and medicaments were categorized in two heads i.e., “AYURVEDIC & UNANI MEDICINES” and “HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICINE” only. However, 2003-04 onwards, medicants and medicaments of Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, Homoeopathic and Bio-chemic systems have been differentiated and the import-export data related to foreign trade in respect of all these items is being recorded separately.

The export of AYUSH products has decreased from 24741.22 Crores in 2012-13 to 15717.23 Crores in 2013-14 with showing a decline annual growth rate of 36% whereas it has further decreased to 13620.57 Crores in 2014-15 with decline annual growth rate is 13%. The decline growth rate in the year 2013-14 has decreased up to 36% due to the decreased of VEG SAPS & EXTRACTS; PECTIC SUBSTANCES PECTINTS SPECTTS; AGAR-AGAR & OTHR MUCILGS & THICKENERS W/N MODIFIED DERIVED FROM VEGITBL PRDCTS from Rs. 22716.29 crore during 2012-13 to Rs. 13569.29 crore in the year 2013-14 (growth rate is -40.26).

The growth rate in the year 2014-15 has decreased by 13% due to the decreased of VEG. SAPS & EXTRACTS; PECTIC SUBSTANCES PECTINTS SPECTTS; AGAR-AGAR & OTHR MUCILGS & THICKENERSW/N MODIFIED DERIVED FROM VEGITBL PRDCTS from Rs. 13569.29 crore during 2013-14 to Rs. 11410.32 crore in the year 2014-15 (growth rate is -15.91).

The import of AYUSH products has increased by 25% annually from 708.64. Crores in 2012-13 to 888.70 Crores in 2013-14 and it has further increased to 1014.78 Crores in 2014-15 with an annual growth rate is 14%.

Thus, during period 2013-14, the total trade of AYUSH products has decreased substantially from 25449.87 in 2012-
13 to 16605.93 Crores in 2013-14. However, during the period 2014-15 the total trade of AYUSH products has further decreased from 16605.93 to 14635.35 Crores in 2014-15 with an annual growth rate is -12%. The growth rate in the year 2014-15 has decreased due to the decreased of VEG. SAPS & EXTRACTS; PECTIC SUBSTANCES PECTINTS SPECTTS; AGAR-AGAR & OTHR MUCILGS & THICKENERSW/N MODIFIED DERIVED FROM VEGITBL PRDCTS from Rs. 13569.29 crore during 2013-14 to Rs. 11410.32 crore in the year 2014-15 (growth rate is -15.91).

Since 2003-04, a continuous growing trend has been observed in India’s foreign trade with respect to AYUSH related Items in respect of export as well as import except for the year 2009-10, 2011-12, 2013-14 and 2014-15 for export of AYUSH related items and for the year 2010-11 and 2011-12 for import of AYUSH related items. During the year 2014-15 a sharp increasing trend has been observed in respect of import while decreasing trend has been observed in respect of export and Total Trade of AYUSH related Items mainly due to decrease growth rate of VEG. SAPS & EXTRACTS; PECTIC SUBSTANCES PECTINTS SPECTTS; AGAR-AGAR & OTHR MUCILGS & THICKENERSW/N MODIFIED DERIVED FROM VEGITBL PRDCTS.

During 2014-15, percentage share of AYUSH products in the total trade of India is 0.32% compared to 0.36% in 2013-14. Similarly, AYUSH products shared 0.72% of Export and 0.04% of Import of India in 2014-15 compared to 0.83% of export and 0.03% of import in India during 2013-14 respectively. All India Balance of Trade have always been negative since the ninth plan period 1996-97, while AYUSH related products always shown a positive balance of Trade, indicating that AYUSH products are having significant role in foreign trade of the country.

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