BACKGROUNDERS
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From Indian Fields to Global Markets: Agri-Exports Gather Pace

20 November 2026

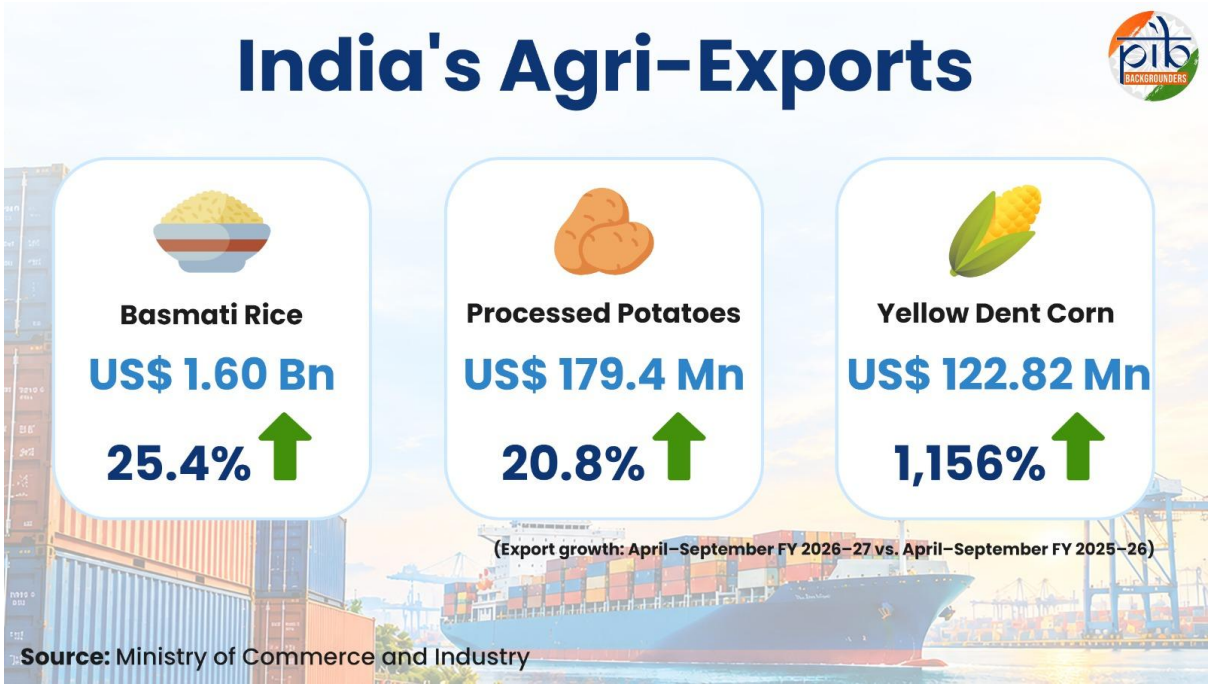
India's agricultural exports recorded strong growth during April-September FY 2026-27, led by Basmati rice, processed frozen potatoes and yellow dent corn. Basmati rice exports increased 25.4%, while processed potato exports rose 20.8%. Yellow dent corn exports surged around 12-fold. Strong growth in exports across West Asia, East and Southeast Asia, and other international markets reflects the widening geographical reach of India's agricultural and processed food exports.

Introduction

India's agricultural exports recorded strong growth across key commodities during April–September FY 2026–27, with Basmati rice, prepared or preserved frozen potatoes and yellow dent corn registering significant increases. The performance reflects a combination of stronger demand in traditional markets, rapid growth in emerging destinations and the increasing geographical diversification of India's agricultural exports.

Basmati rice exports increased across several West Asian markets, including **Iran, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Yemen and Oman.** The **United States** also recorded growth during the period. Meanwhile, processed potato exports gained momentum across **East and Southeast Asia, particularly in Indonesia, and Japan.**

Yellow dent corn registered a particularly sharp increase in exports, with **Vietnam, Bangladesh and the Philippines** emerging as major destinations. Growth across these agricultural commodities highlights the widening geographical spread of India's exports and its expanding presence in international markets.

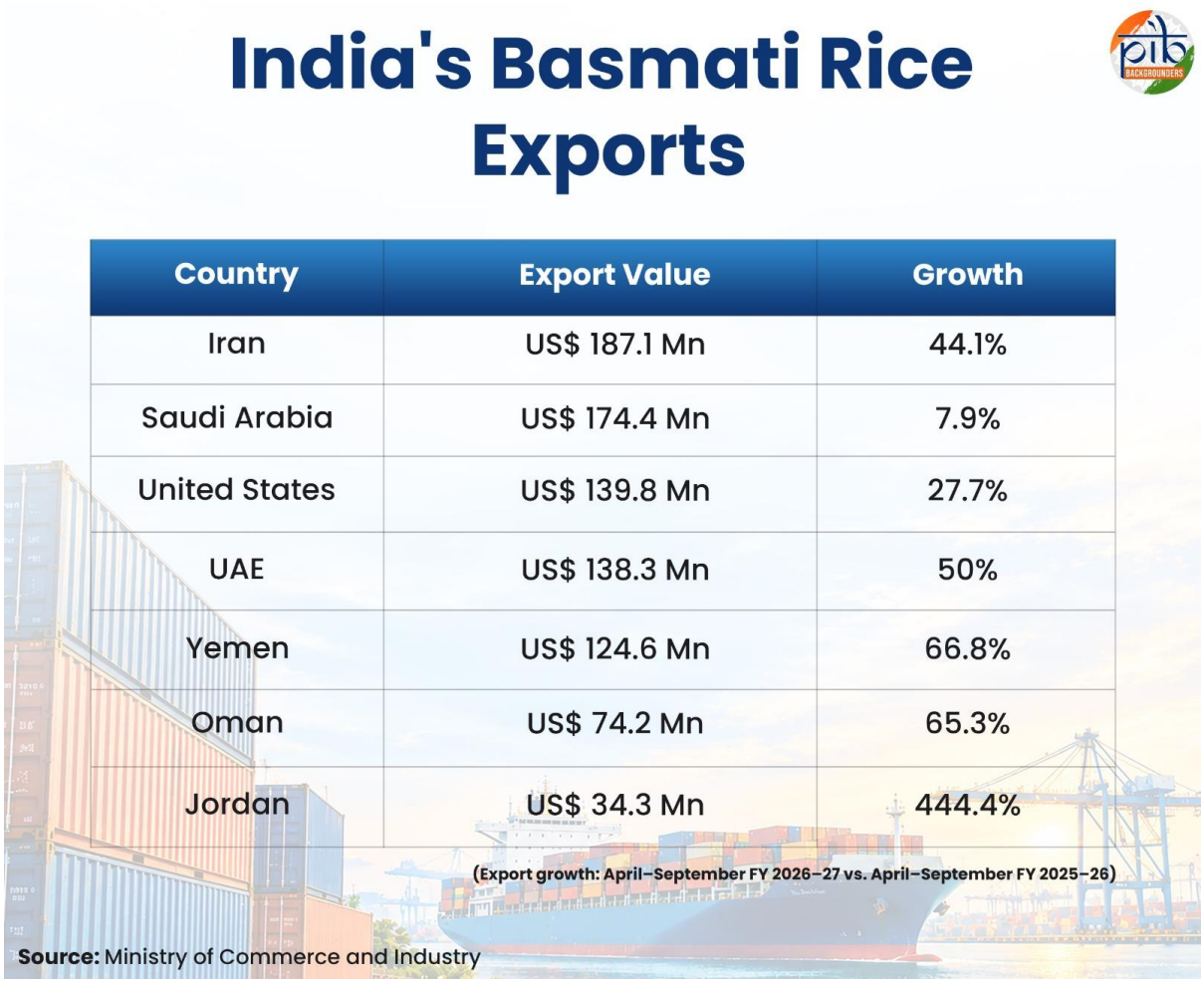


Basmati Rice Exports Rise 25% to US$ 1.60 Billion

Exports of **Basmati rice** increased around **25.4%,** from US$ 1.28 billion during April–September FY 2025–26 to **US$ 1.60 billion** in the corresponding period of FY 2026–27. The increase was recorded across several important markets in West Asia, North America and other regions.

- **Iran** emerged as the largest destination among the reported markets, with exports increasing **44.1%,** from US$ 129.8 million to **US$ 187.1 million.**
- **Saudi Arabia** recorded growth of **7.9%,** with exports rising from US$ 161.6 million to **US$ 174.4 million.**
- The **United States** registered an increase of **27.7%,** with shipments rising from US$ 109.5 million to **US$ 139.8 million.**
- The **UAE** recorded growth of **more than 50%,** with exports reaching **US$ 138.3 million** during the period.
- **Yemen** registered a substantial increase of **66.8%,** with exports rising from US$ 74.7 million to **US$ 124.6 million.**
- **Oman** also recorded strong growth of **65.3%,** with shipments increasing from US$ 44.9 million to **US$ 74.2 million.**
- Among smaller markets, **Jordan** recorded a sharp increase of **444.4%,** with exports rising **more than five-fold** from US$ 6.3 million to **US$ 34.3 million.**

Other destinations, including Canada, Qatar, Nepal, Mauritius and Italy, also registered increases in Basmati rice exports during the period, reflecting the widening geographical reach of Indian Basmati rice across international markets.



Processed Potato Exports Rise 21% to US$ 179.4 Million

India's exports of **prepared or preserved frozen potatoes** increased **20.8%,** from US$ 148.5 million to **US$ 179.4** million during April–September FY 2026–27. Growth was recorded across several markets, particularly in East and Southeast Asia.

- The **Philippines** remained the leading export destination, with shipments reaching **US$ 36.7 million,** followed by **Saudi Arabia** at **US$ 24.3 million.**
- **Indonesia** registered strong growth of **75%**, with exports rising from US$ 7.6 million to **US$ 13.3 million.**
- **Japan** recorded a significant increase of **112.9%,** with exports more than doubling from US$ 6.2 million to **US$ 13.2 million**.
- **Oman** and **Australia** also registered notable gains. Exports to **Oman** reached **US$ 9.6 million,** while shipments to Australia more than doubled to **US$ 6.0 million**, representing growth of over 100%.
- **South Korea** recorded a **nearly 100% increase**, with exports rising from US$ 1.0 million to nearly **US$ 2.0 million.**
- **China** registered **substantial growth of 160%,** with exports increasing from US$ 0.5 million to **US$ 1.3 million.**



Yellow Dent Corn Exports Surge 1,156%

Exports of yellow dent corn recorded a sharp increase of approximately **1,156%,** from US$ 9.78 million during April–September FY 2025–26 to **US$ 122.82 million** in the corresponding period of FY 2026–27. The sharp increase was driven by substantial growth in shipments to several Asian markets.

- **Vietnam** emerged as the largest export destination, with shipments increasing approximately **3,49,600%,** from US$ 0.02 million to **US$ 69.94 million**, reflecting exceptional growth.
- **Bangladesh** recorded exports of US$ **30.84 million**. The **Philippines** emerged as another important destination, with exports reaching **US$ 8.55 million** during the period.
- The **UAE** registered a substantial increase of approximately **3,867%,** with exports rising from US$ 0.18 million to **US$ 7.14 million.**
- **Malaysia** also recorded strong growth of approximately **903%,** with shipments increasing from US$ 0.34 million to **US$ 3.41 million.**



Diversification Strengthens India's Agricultural Export Story

India's agricultural export performance during April–September FY 2026–27 reflects **growth across selected traditional staples and processed food products**. Basmati rice recorded increased shipments across West Asia, North America and other markets, while processed potatoes registered gains across East and Southeast Asia.

Yellow dent corn contributed to this expansion, with exports rising sharply to Vietnam, Bangladesh, the Philippines and other destinations. The increase in shipments across these markets highlights the **growing geographical diversification of India's agricultural exports**.

Growth across established and emerging markets demonstrates the expanding international market base for Indian agricultural commodities and value-added processed food products.

Reference

Ministry of Commerce and Industry

PIB Research