

China keen on Indian henna, drumsticks powder

Indian henna powder, chillies, value-added tea and moringa (drumstick) powder have caught the fancy of the country's second largest trading partner China and the Asian giant is keen to import these agricultural products from India.

Chinese importers raised inquiries about these value-added farm products at the recently concluded import-only fair in Shanghai.

A Tamil Nadu-based exporter of henna powder booked orders above Rs 3 crore at the second edition of the China International Import Expo in Shanghai which took place from November 5-10.

India's exports to China in the first six months of 2019-20 were \$8.5 billion while imports were \$36.3 billion. The trade deficit was \$53.6 billion in FY19.

"They want us to provide organic certification for such agricultural goods because demand for organic products is huge there," the official added.

The main product categories in the expo were sci-tech life, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment & healthcare products, automobile, equipment, quality life, trade in services, food and agriculture products.

"Many companies are interested to use India as their export base and also cater to the Indian market. They have an incentive of lower corporate tax rate here," said Ajay Sahai, director general, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO).

The growth in India's exports to China has been driven by marine products, organic chemicals, plastics, petroleum products, grapes and rice.

Source: The Economic Times