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Exports and Trading Items of Madhya Pradesh

By Our Correspondent

Exports

Food-grains, jaggery, oil-seeds, ghi, fish and handloom cloth are the main items of export of the district. The other items of export are Ayurvedic medicines, bones and skins and cotton-yarn. Peas and pulses are supplied to Bombay and Madras; rice and fish to Bihar and Bengal; wheat, oil-seeds, jaggery and paddy

to Mainpuri, Kanpur, Lucknow and Agra; while handloom cloth is mainly sent to Delhi, Kanpur and Lucknow. Bedspreads were exported to the United States of America, Britain and Germany.

Ayurvedic medicines are supplied to the adjoining districts, skins to Kanpur and bones to Magarwara. The goods are carried by trucks or by rail.

Imports

The main importation of the district are consumer goods, medicines and drugs, cotton, diesel and mobil oil, spirit, petrol, mineral oils, machinery and motor vehicles. They are generally transported to Etawah from Lucknow, Delhi, Kanpur, Calcutta, Agra, Mirzapur and Varanasi.

Trade Centres

Etawah is the main assembling and

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distribution centre for ghi, oil-seeds, paddy, grains, peas and arhar (a kind of pulse). It is the largest regulated wholesale market (Mandi) for ghi and oil seeds in the district. Ghi is tested and graded in a laboratory located in the mandi. Oil extracted from oil-seeds (mustard, lahi etc.) is also sold in the mandi. The following statement gives the quantities of oil-seeds and food-grains, that arrived in the market in 1995-96.

Commodity	Quantity (in Metric Tonnes)
Oil-seeds	43306.00
Paddy	165719.00
Peas	20826.00
Arhar	11689.00
Wheat	411214.00
Gram	12783.00

The other important wholesale markets of the district are situated at Jaswantnagar, Bharthana- all being regulated markets. Bharthana Jaswantnagar are important wholesale markets, which mainly deal in ghi and food-grains.

The requirements of the people residing in the rural areas of the district are generally supplied by small local bazars, known as haats. The markets are scattered all over the district. The dealers of the neighbouring villages exhibit their wares in the markets, which are held twice or thrice a week. There are 687 major markets in the district.

Warehousing Facilities

These facilities have not developed in tune with the development of transport facilities and trade. About 190 warehouses are available in the district, majority numbering 110 belong to the Warehousing Corporation Ltd. The agriculture department of the U.P. government has 44 warehouses and the co-operative department operates 36 warehouses in the district. Greater portion of the agricultural commodities are stored in khattis, an indigenous arrangement for storing grains in pits in the ground, the base and walls of the pit are covered by bhusa (straw) as also its top.