

Kandahar exports up 50 pc during current year

By: Syed Zabuli - 9/01/2008 - 18:25

KANDAHAR, Jan 9 (Pajhwok Afghan News): Official of Kandahar chapter of commerce claims a 50% increase in dry and fresh fruits export of the province in the last eight months.

Habibullah Farid, director of the chamber told Pajhwok Afghan News in the first three quarters of the current Afghan calendar year the export was \$22 millions while previously it was only \$15 millions.

"33056 tons dry fruit, cereal, grain, wool, cotton and fresh fruits had been exported to foreign countries in the first nine months", he added.

According to him these commodities include 3915 tons medicinal plants, 13924 tons dry fruits, 11519 tons grain, 220 tons seeds, 230 tons cotton and 3151 tons fresh fruits.

He added that during this period 1445 tons pomegranate and 1706 tons other fresh fruits which mostly contained grapes were also exported.

Farid added these items have been exported to Pakistan, Iran, India and Malaysia while samples have also been sent to London and USA for seeking market.

"Though this year two fighting in the country greatly damaged orchards and crops but our export did not decrease as compared with the last three years", he asserted.

He said the export of the province would further increase till the end of the current Afghan calendar year.

"There is no custom duty on the export of fresh fruits especially on grapes and pomegranates and therefore they have no record about the export of these items", he added.

He said majority of fresh fruits grow in Arghandab, Panjwai and Zerai districts of the province while other cereal and grain give satisfactory yields in the adjacent district.

A fruit dealer Abdul Wali told this news agency pomegranates give good yields and made business during the current year.

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