The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) was established by the Government of India under the **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority Act, 1985.** It functions under the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry.** The Authority has its headquarters in New Delhi.

**Functions**

- APEDA is mandated with the responsibility of **export promotion and development of the scheduled products** viz. fruits, vegetables and their products; meat and meat products; poultry and poultry products; dairy products; confectionery, biscuits and bakery products; honey, jaggery and sugar products; cocoa and its products; chocolates of all kinds; alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages; cereal and cereal products; groundnuts, peanuts and walnuts, pickles, papads and chutneys; guar gum; floriculture and floriculture products; herbal and medicinal plants.
- APEDA has been entrusted with the responsibility to **monitor import of sugar.**
- It looks after the development of industries relating to the scheduled products for export by way of providing financial assistance or otherwise for undertaking surveys and feasibility studies, participating through subsidy schemes.
- Registration of persons as exporters of the scheduled products and fixing of standards and specifications for the scheduled products for the purpose of exports.
- Carrying out inspection of meat and meat products in slaughterhouses, processing plants, storage premises and improving packaging of the scheduled products.

**Composition of APEDA Authority**

- The APEDA Authority consists of the following members namely:
  - A Chairman appointed by the Central Government
  - The Agricultural Marketing Advisor to the Government of India, ex-official
  - Three members of Parliament of whom two are elected by the House of People and one by the Council of States
  - Eight members appointed by the Central Government representing respectively; the Ministries of the Central Govt.
    - Agriculture and Rural Development
    - Commerce
    - Finance
    - Industry
    - Food
    - Civil Supplies
    - Civil Aviation
    - Shipping and transport
  - Five members appointed by the Central Government by rotation in alphabetical order to represent the States and the Union Territories
  - Seven members appointed by the Central Govt. representing
    - Indian Council of Agricultural Research
    - National Horticultural Board
    - National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation
    - Central Food Technological Research Institute
Indian Institute of Packaging
Spices Export Promotion Council and
Cashew Export Promotion Council

- Twelve members appointed by the Central Government representing
  - Fruit and Vegetable Products Industries
  - Meat, Poultry and Dairy Products Industries
  - Other Scheduled Products Industries
  - Packaging Industry
- Two members appointed by the Central Government from amongst specialists and scientists in the fields of agriculture, economics and marketing of the scheduled products.

**TRIFED**

- The Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED) came into existence in 1987. It is a national-level apex organization functioning under the administrative control of **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**.
- TRIFED has its Head Office located in New Delhi and has a network of 13 Regional Offices located at various places in the country.

**Objectives**

- The ultimate objective of TRIFED is socio-economic development of tribal people in the country by way of marketing development of the tribal products such as metal craft, tribal textiles, pottery, tribal paintings and pottery on which the tribals depends heavily for major portion of their income.
- TRIFED acts as a facilitator and service provider for tribes to sell their product.
- The approach by TRIFED aims to empower tribal people with knowledge, tools and pool of information so that they can undertake their operations in a more systematic and scientific manner.
- It also involves capacity building of the tribal people through sensitization, formation of Self Help Groups (SHGs) and imparting training to them for undertaking a particular activity.

**Functions**

It mainly undertakes two functions viz. Minor Forest Produce (MFP) development and Retail Marketing and Development.

**Minor Forest Produce (MFP) development**

- An important source of livelihood for tribal people are non-wood forest products, generally termed ‘Minor Forest Produce (MFP)’. This includes all non-timber forest produce of plant origin and include bamboo, canes, fodder, leaves, gums, waxes, dyes, resins and many forms of food including nuts, wild fruits, honey, lac, tusser etc.
- The Minor Forest Produces provide both subsistence and cash income for people who live in or near forests. They form a major portion of their food, fruits, medicines and other consumption items and also provide cash income through sales.
- MFP has significant economic and social value for the forest dwellers as an estimated 100 Million people derive their source of livelihood from the collection and marketing of Minor Forest Produce (Report of the National Committee on Forest Rights Act, 2011).
- Around 100 million forest dwellers depend on Minor Forest Produces for food, shelter,
medicines and cash income. Tribals derive 20-40% of their annual income from Minor Forest Produce on which they spend major portion of their time.

- MFP also has strong linkage to women’s financial empowerment as most of the Minor Forest Produces are collected and used/sold by women.
- The people who depend on MFP are generally beset with a number of other problems such as perishable nature of the produce, lack of holding capacity, lack of marketing infrastructure, exploitation by middlemen, etc. Due to this, the MFP gatherers who are mostly poor are unable to bargain for fair prices.
- To cope with the above problem, Govt. of India has decided to introduce the scheme of “Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and development of value chain”.
- The scheme is designed as a social safety net for improvement of livelihood of MFP gatherers by providing them a fair price for the MFPs they collect.

Retail Marketing and Development

- TRIFED aims to improve the livelihood of the tribal communities by creating a sustainable market and create business opportunities for tribal people.
- It involves exploring marketing possibilities for marketing of tribal products on a sustainable basis, creating brand and providing other necessary services.
- It has a network of 13 regional offices across the country which identifies and source tribal products for marketing through its retail marketing network of TRIBES INDIA outlets.
- It has been undertaking sourcing of various handicraft, handloom and natural & food products through its empanelled suppliers across the country. The suppliers comprise of individual tribal artisans, tribal SHGs, Organisations/ Agencies/NGOs working with tribals. The suppliers are empanelled with TRIFED as per the guidelines for empanelment of suppliers.
- TRIFED has been marketing tribal products through its Retail Outlets located across the country and also through exhibitions. It has established a chain of 35 own showrooms and 8 consignment showrooms in association with State level Organisations promoting tribal handicrafts.