

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:324  
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000  
PERFORMANCE OF EXPORT  
SHIVAJI VITHALRAO KAMBLE

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have recently reviewed the performance of export during the current financial year in general and agricultural products in particular;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith emerging trends during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government is formulating any big term agro-export policy to tap huge potential in this segment; and
- (d) if so, the present status of New Agro-export Policy and strategies worked out to expand, upgrade and modernise the required infrastructure to make agro-export possible?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) Export Promotion is a continuous process. The Government is taking conscious and continuous efforts to boost exports including agriculture exports through changes in Exim Policy and procedures with focus on improving the export competitiveness and providing a freer trading environment.

(b) As per the Director General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics data, India's exports of agricultural products during the last three years are as follows:

Year	US \$ million
1996-97	4596
1997-98	4237
1998-99 (p)	3952

(p) =Provisional

â€â€2/-

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(c) & (d) Agricultural Export Policy is principally governed by the concerns of our food security and maximising farm income. Initiatives taken recently to enhance exports of agricultural and processed food products include providing assistance for raising small and large nurseries; upgradation of technical know-how; training of farmers; providing soft loans to this sector for modernisation and making it competitive; providing financial assistance for development of infrastructure like cold storage; grant of Air Freight Subsidy for exports of floricultural items and selected fresh fruits and vegetables and fruits and arranging promotional campaigns such as buyer-seller meets and participation in important international fairs and exhibitions.