

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3930

ANSWERED ON:22.08.2003

EXPORT TO ASIAN COUNTRIES

AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH;YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

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

- (a) whether Indian exports to other Asian countries grew by 42.85% in 2002-03;
- (b) if so, whether adequate targets has been set for exports to other Asian countries in 2003-04;
- (c) the sectors where Indian exports to Asian countries has not grown;
- (d) the details of steps to encourage exports from such sluggish sectors; and
- (e) the position of imports from other Asian countries during 2002-03?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

- (a) Indian exports to Asian countries which has a weight of 41.68% in India's total exports grew by 32.94% in dollar terms in 2002-03 as compared to 2001-02.
- (b) The target for export growth of the merchandise goods as a whole for the year 2003-04 has been fixed at 12%.
- (c) Exports of most of the major sectors to Asian Countries show a positive growth rate. Some of the major items where Indian exports to some Asian countries have not registered positive growth during 2002-03 include Cotton, including Yarn & Woven fabric thereof, Woven Apparel, Marine products and Machinery.
- (d) Based on the strategies contained in the Medium Term Export Strategy 2002-07, announced in January, 2002, a number of programmes/schemes have been launched through the Union Budget, 2003-04 and Exim Policy, 2003-04. In the Exim Policy, 2003-04, besides, the focus on Service exports, policies have been devised to strengthen Special Economic Zones (SEZs), 100% Export Oriented Units (EOU's), etc. Duty Neutralization Schemes for import of inputs used for export production have been strengthened. Constant efforts are being made to increase exports to most of the Asian Countries. As a result of the efforts of the Government, the percentage share of exports to Asian Countries has increased from 37.37% in 2001-02 to 41.68% in 2002-03.
- (e) The total imports of goods from Asian countries are placed at US\$ 16476.42 million in 2002-03 registering a growth of 15.49% over 2001-02.