

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4664  
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2005  
INDO- JAPAN TRADE  
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether India has expressed concern over its stagnant trade with Japan which has not exceeded \$4 billion in the last seven years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith volumes of trade between the two during last three years;
- (c) whether India`s trade relationship with other countries in the region including China and Korea have shown encouraging growth;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether India and Japan have agreed to improve the trade relations between the two countries;
- (f) if so, whether any agreement in this regard has been reached and signed; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY( SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The volume of Indo-Japan trade during last three years is as under :- (value in US \$ million)

	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04 (P)
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India`s exports to Japan	1510	-15%	1864	23%	1714	-8%
India`s imports from Japan	2146	17%	1836	-14%	2642	44%
Total	3656	1%	3700	1%	4356	18%
Balance of Trade	- 636		28		-928	

(Source DGCIS)

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The average percentage growth registered with the following countries in North East Asia during the period 1997-98 to 2003-04 is as under :-

- (1) China - 47%
- (2) ROK - 20%
- (3) Hong Kong - 19%

(e)to (g): It is the constant endeavour of the Government of India to improve trade relations with Japan. In this direction, during the visit of Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) to India in January 2005, formal establishment of the Policy Dialogue between India and Japan was announced. It was also announced that Minister level talks between Commerce and Industry Minister and Japanese METI Minister would be held regularly on an annual basis. As a follow-up to this, the Commerce and Industry Minister of India recently visited Japan, accompanied by a large business delegation, and held wide-ranging talks with the Japanese Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry, the Minister for Finance, the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery and the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Policy Dialogue is on-going.