

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3081
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2005
EXPORT DEVELOPMENT FUND
Sarima Dr. Arun Kumar

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

- (a) the status of the Export Development Fund and achievement made in the country especially in North Eastern Region;
- (b) the details of export-import made with the countries bordering NER during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether any specific study has been conducted by (IIFT) Indian Institute of Foreign Trade;
- (d) if so, the details thereof also with action taken in this regard; and
- (e) the status of reopening of the old Still-Well Road, at present?

Answer

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

(a) An Export Development Fund (EDF) has been set up under the Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) scheme with the objective of using the resources of the North Eastern Region for the development of exports. So far, a total amount of Rs. 29.66 crore has been sanctioned under the Export Development Fund, for 41 export oriented projects/activities.

(b) The details of trade with the countries bordering the North Eastern Region (NER) during each of the last three years are as follows:-

Name of the Country	Year-wise Total Exports (in Rs. crore)#			Year-wise Total Imports (in Rs. crore)#		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05

Bangladesh	5691.28	7998.97	7218.52	300.29	356.70	266.24
Myanmar	363.31	411.92	493.01	1626.28	1879.40	1790.72
China	9560.39	13579.05	24015.34	13512.15	18625.13	30413.79

(#Source: DGCI&S)

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. A study has been conducted by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade on the Industrial Development and Export Potential of the North Eastern Region. The report concludes that there is a sizeable potential for promoting trade from the North Eastern Region. The study has recommended the setting up of enterprises to promote production and trade of items having potential for growth of exports, particularly in respect of Horticulture, Plantation Crops and Sericulture. The study has also recommended the revival of riverine routes and development of rail and road transportation system in the North Eastern Region. Assistance is being provided to the State Governments under the ASIDE Scheme to develop the necessary infrastructure for promotion of trade in addition to the funds provided under the EDF, for taking up export oriented projects/activities.

(e) No decision has been taken on the reopening of the old Stilwell Road.