

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1760

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2006

EFFECT OF TSUNAMI ON SEA FOOD INDUSTRY

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any assessment of the effects of Tsunami on sea food industry in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total export of sea food made during each of the last two years and the current year;
- (d) the percentage decrease in exports as compared to the previous years; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government to increase export and to revoke anti-dumping duties imposed on sea food?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) An expert Committee was constituted to study and review the long term impact of Tsunami on the ocean eco-system and its resources. The effects of Tsunami on coastal aqua culture have also been assessed by MPEDA. The findings of the Committee and MPEDA indicate that marine fisheries have suffered the loss of infrastructure, craft and gear due to Tsunami. Shrimp hatcheries and aquaculture farms have also suffered damages.

(c) & (d) As per the export figures compiled by MPEDA, on the basis of shipping bills and invoices, the export of marine products during the last two years and the current year (upto December, 2005) have been as follows:

(In US \$ Million)

Year	Exports	Percentage	Growth
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2003-04	1330.76	(-)	6.61
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2004-05	1478.48		11.10
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2005-06 (Provisional)			
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(Upto Dec., 2005)	1190.44		5.63
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(e) Steps taken to increase the export of marine products include the schemes for extending financial assistance for upgrading processing facilities, expansion of aquaculture, imparting of training to aquaculture farmers, assistance for production of value-added products and marketing support. The Marine Products Export Development Authority and the Seafood Exporters Association of India have been defending the interests of the Indian shrimp industry in the matter of anti-dumping duties.