

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2578  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2006  
WORLD SPICES CONGRESS, 2006  
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

- (a) whether the Eighth World Spices Congress, 2006 was recently held in Chennai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the officials participated in the said Congress;
- (c) the agenda discussed in the Congress;
- (d) the extent to which Indian Spices industry is likely to be benefited by the said Congress?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Eighth World Spice Congress 2006 was held in Chennai during 27 to 29 January, 2006. The Congress was attended by 105 overseas delegates from 28 countries and 234 delegates from India. 22 Official delegates attended the Congress. The agenda discussed in the Congress was `Food safety in spices- challenges and opportunities` and Spices Crops and Markets.

The World Spice Congress is an ideal forum for interaction between importers and exporters. It offers an opportunity to the Indian spice trade to showcase its process technology, quality, and food safety compliance system. It also provides an opportunity to the foreign delegates to visit Indian spice farms and processing units and get the first hand information about production and processing in India.