

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:902
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2005
PRODUCTION/ CONSUMPTION OF PAPER
Saroj Shri Tufani

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

e:

- (a) the production of paper during 2004-2005 and thereafter;
- (b) whether the consumption of paper is continuously growing in the country;
- (c) if so, the consumption of paper in the country during the said period;
- (d) whether the production of paper is likely to decline due to heavy and continuous rainfall in South-West States during 2005-2006 in comparison to fixed targets;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken in this regard; and
- (f) the schemes formulated by the Government to fulfill demand of paper in the country?

Answer

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

- (a): The production of paper and paper board was 58 lakh tonnes in 2004-2005 and 25 lakh tonnes during April to August 2005.
- (b) & (c) Consumption of paper and paper board has increased from 52 lakh tonnes in 2002-2003, to 56 lakh tonnes in 2003-2004 and further to 57 lakh tones in 2004-2005.
- (d) & (e): The production of paper and paper board during April-August this year has been 25 lakh tonnes against 24 lakh tones during the corresponding period last year.
- (f): Production of paper and paper board is delicensed. In the liberalised economic scenario, investment decisions are taken by the entrepreneur based on their commercial assessment. The Government has been supporting various research & development projects in the field of raw material and process research, quality upgradation, energy and environmental management, chemical recovery, etc. in order to encourage production of good quality paper for meeting the growing demand.