

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1593

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008

EXPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS

Dube Shri Ramesh;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

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

- (a) whether the government has asked the US to ease norms for export of marine products in lieu of reducing import duty on its cut bike Harley Davidson as reported in the Times of India dated December 20, 2007;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of US thereon;
- (c) whether the Marine Export Development Authority of India has recommended several steps to be taken by the Union Government to save the marine industry;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether export of marine products has declined during 2006-07 and 2007-08 as compared to the previous years;
- (f) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) MPEDA has analysed the various factors that are hindering accelerated export growth of marine products. Some of the major recommendations made are, to encourage after taking all necessary precautionary measures, the production of those species which have lower costs and higher productivity; exempting import of raw material for reprocessing, value addition and re-export against advance licenses, from the requirement of obtaining a Sanitary Import Permit and inspection by Port Health Authorities; rationalization of air freight at par with IATA rates to promote export of ornamental fishes from India, reduction of customs duty on tune bait etc.

(e & f) As per available information(see table below),exports of marine products during 2006-07 increased by 19.62% in quantity, 15.43 % in Rupee value and 12.69% in US Dollar realization compared to 2005-06. However during 2007-08, for which only provisional figures are available upto January, 2008, which does not capture the complete export data,exports have decreased due to poor price offers, poor landing and rupee appreciation.

EXPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS FROM INDIA

Q: Quantity In M.Tons

V: Value Rs. Crores

\$: US \$ Million

Year

Exports
Growth (%)

2004-05 Q: 461329 49312 11.97
V: 6646.69 554.74 9.11
\$: 1478.48 147.71 11.10

2005-06 Q: 51216 50835.1 11.02
V: 7245.30 598.61 9.01
\$: 1644.21 165.74 11.21

2006-07 Q: 612641 100478 19.62
V: 8363.53 1118.23 15.43
\$: 1644.21 208.72 12.69

2007-08 Q: 435873 -96214 -18.08
(Provisional V: 6266.69 -957.87 -13.26
up to \$: 1556.09 -35.48 -2.23
Jan.2008)

(g) As a result of efforts made, the anti-dumping duty of 10.17% imposed by the US on Indian shrimp since 2004 (as U.S.A. claimed India was selling shrimp to it at a price lower than that to any other country), was reduced to 7.22% in the first annual administrative review for the period August 2004 to January 2006 and thereafter again further reduced to 1.09 per cent for the 2nd period of review between February 2006 to January 2007. MPEDA has prepared a vision document and proposed clearly defined objectives and interventions, such that India's marine exports increase to \$ 6 billion in 2015 from \$ 1.85 billion exported during 2006-07.

The main areas identified by MPEDA to increase the exports are:- (i) Promotion of value added products.

(ii) Promotion of Tuna

(iii) Diversification and extension of aquaculture.