

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3029

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016

Indian Sea Food Industry

Lakhanpal Shri Raghav;Rao Shri Konakalla Narayana

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

- (a) Whether the Indian sea food Processing Industry has been working much below its capacity owing to shortage of raw materials;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to help the sea food Processing Industry to improve its position;
- (c) whether the Indian sea food industry needs to have a conservation policy to revive the coastal resources and sea food if so, the other steps taken by the Government so far to save the Industry and also improve its profitability;
- (d) the quantum of sea food including prawns, fresh and dry fishes produced, exported and imported in the country during each of the last two years; and
- (e) whether any countries have imposed any restriction/ban/countervailing duty on the import of prawns from India and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) Yes, Madam. Sea food process facilities tend to work below their capacity during non-peak landing seasons.
- (b) The processing infrastructure in the country is established to cater the needs of the peak landing seasons which dips during off seasons. Following are the steps taken by Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) to improve the position of seafood processing industry:-
 - (i) MPEDA is operating financial assistance schemes for infrastructure establishment for value addition.
 - (ii) There is a scheme on 'Seafreight assistance for the import of raw material' being run by MPEDA for the entrepreneurs to import the raw material for re-processing and export in value added form.
 - (iii) MPEDA is taking steps to augment production through aquaculture by implementing a number of aquaculture promotional schemes and Better Management Practices by aquaculture farmers.
 - (iv) The Ministry of food process Industry has also formulated schemes of suggesting marine processing.
- (c) Yes, Madam. Indian seafood industry is currently propelled by the coastal aquaculture production. As far as sea caught varieties are concerned, steps are being taken by the respective State Governments under their Fisheries Regulation Acts to conserve their resources, besides augmenting fish production.

(d) Export of marine products from India during last two years are as follows:

Year	2014-15	2015-16
Quantity (in metric tons)	1073965.69	978027.05
Value (in Rs. Crores)	33688.38	31219.43
Value (in million US \$)	5510.49	4767.50

Import of marine products from India during last two years is as follows:-

Year	2014-15	2015-16
Quantity (in metric tons)	27721.32	50129.15
Value (in Rs. Crores)	453.90	639.77
Value (in million US \$)	73.93	97.23

(Source; DGCIS)

- (e) Yes, Madam. Based on the representations of Southern Shrimp Producers Alliance, the association of local shrimp producers in USA, the US Department of Commerce has imposed anti-dumping duty on shrimp imports from India since 2004. The initial anti dumping duty imposed was 10.17%, which is presently 2.20% after many reviews.
