

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3155
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2000
PRODUCTION CONSUMPTION EXPORT OF SALT
PON RADHAKRISHNAN

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

- (a) the measures taken by the Government to promote the export of salt and salt products from the country; and
- (b) the production and consumption of salt in the country and the export of the same from various States with particular reference to Tamil Nadu during the last three years?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH)

(a)&(b): A statement is annexed.

ANNEXURE

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3155, due for answer on 11th August,2000.

(a) The Government has initiated/taken following measures to promote export of salt :-

- Salt exports have been exempted from the levy of Cess.
- Railway is according `B` priority for movement of salt by rail for exports of common & iodized salt.
- Setting up of cent percent salt Export Oriented Units is being encouraged.
- Captive units have been impressed upon to export their surplus production instead of selling in the domestic market.
- Salt manufacturers have been advised to set up refineries/washeries for upgradation of the quality of salt for exports.
- Free training & technical guidance is imparted to salt manufacturers/new entrepreneurs in designing the salt works on scientific lines, improvement in the quality, etc.
- Assistance is provided out of Cess proceeds for the construction of approach roads from salt works to the Jetty/Port to facilitate its transport.
- To augment rate of loading and to provide mechanical salt handling facilities at premier port - Kandla, a study has been undertaken.
- Workshops/Seminars are organized for the improvement in quality of common salt.
- Quality of salt for exports is tested free of cost in the Salt Deptt. Laboratories.
- Export Worthy Certificates (EWC) are issued free of cost.

(b) The production and internal consumption of common salt in the country during the years 1997 - 1999 were as under:-

(figures in `000 tonnes)

Year Production Consumption of Common salt for Total

1997	14251.1	4652.4	5551.1	10203.5
1998	11964.4	4694.7	5873.3	10568.0
1999	14452.7	4943.7	6064.3	11008.0

Salt exports from various States during the above period were as under:-

(figures in `000 tonnes)

State Common salt exports during

1997 1998 1999

Gujarat 389.78 328.04 426.60
Tamil Nadu 141.32 78.81 402.20

Total 531.10 406.85 828.80