

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:394
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2002
EXPORTS BY SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES
BRIJLAL KHABRI;JASKAUR MEENA

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

- (a) the percentage of export made by India out of total export made by South Asian Countries during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether export from the South Asian countries including India has declined of late;
- (c) if so, the facts in this regard; and
- (d) the efforts being made by the Government to improve the export performance?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a), (b), (c) & (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 394 TO ANSWERED ON 19.4.2002 REGARDING EXPORTS BY SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES

(a) to (c) : As per WTO trade statistics the value of merchandise goods exports of India as a percentage of the total export of South Asian Countries has increased during the last 3 years from a level of 63.7% in 1998 to 65.6% in 1999 and to 66% in 2000. Therefore, it is evident that the percentage share of exports of India to the total exports of South Asia has increased in the last 3 years. However, on account of global economic slow down and the events of September 11 and its aftermath, there has been a decline in the growth rate of world exports. As against the growth of world exports of over 12% in 2000, preliminary estimates indicate that the world exports during the first half of 2001 has grown only by 1%. Such decline in the growth rate of world exports has affected the export growth of many countries including South Asian countries and India.

(d) : In order to arrest the declining exports several short term interventionist measures were resorted to by the Government which include reduction in the export credit rate for both pre-shipment and post-shipment, special financial package to manufacturer exporters, extension of normal repatriation period upto 360 days and upward revision of Duty Drawback on a number of product groups. A medium term export strategy has been announced for the period 2002-07 which aims at achieving 1% of world exports by the year 2006-07. The EXIM Policy for 2002-07 announced recently has also incorporated a number of measures to proactively promote exports which inter alia include permitting offshore Banking units in Special Economic Zones, transport subsidy for export of certain agricultural products, development of centres of export excellence, additional support for electronic hardware exports, further reduction in transaction cost etc.