

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1297
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2000
EXPORT OF SPICES
T. GOVINDAN

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

- (a) whether the Government are aware that the export of spices has declined during the last one year;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to boost its export?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

a) There is no decline in the value of spices exported during last financial year, though there is slight fall of 4% in quantity exported. The exports of spices for the year 1997-98 and 1998-99 is given below:

Year	Qty (MT)	Value (Rs. crores)	
	Rs.	US\$	
1997-98	242071	1466.81	394.45
1998-99	231389	1758.02	419.68

- b) Government encourages export of value added products. Slight fall in the quantity of spices exported is on account of the focus on export of value added spices. The value addition offsets the slight fall in quantity of spices exported.
- c) Apart from the general trade policy reforms, some of the steps taken to enhance exports of spices include rationalisation of cess on export of spices @ 0.5% to make them price competitive in the overseas market, implementation of brand promotion schemes like `Logo Promotion`, grant of `Spices House Certificate` as a recognition of processor/ exporter of quality products, setting up of laboratories for testing of products to ensure quality, technology transfer, process upgradation and product development.