

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7384  
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000  
EXPORT OF MARINE PRODUCTS  
AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER

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

- (a) whether the export of marine products registered a negative growth during 1998-99;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN THE REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.7384 ON EXPORT OF M. PRODUCTS BY SHRI AKBOR ALI KHANDOKER TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.5.2000

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The export of marine products during the year 1998-99 as compared to the year 1997-98 in terms of major market/items has been as follows:

Q: Quantity in Metric Tons,V:Value in US \$ Million

Market	1997-98		1998-99	
	Q	V	Q	V
JAPAN	70955	641.67	67277	549.16
USA	32914	161.04	34472	147.68
EUROPEAN UNION	34875	113.81	54261	163.78
SOUTH EAST ASIA	218263	314.23	116610	183.27
MIDDLE EAST	17618	39.91	17274	35.40
OTHERS	11193	25.20	13040	27.62
TOTAL	385818	1295.86	302934	1106.91

Q: Quantity in Metric Tons V: Value in US \$ Million

ITEM	1997-98		1998-99	
	Q	V	Q	V
FROZEN SHRIMP	101318	866.37	102484	800.22
FROZEN FISH	188029	200.47	108556	118.43
FROZEN SQUID	35095	74.73	32254	64.34
FROZEN CUTTLE FISH	37258	89.22	34589	65.39
OTHERS	24118	65.07	25051	58.53
TOTAL	385818	1295.86	302934	1106.91

Japan continued to be the major market with a share of over 49% in the total foreign exchange earned during 1998-99. The exports during this fiscal year marginally declined. India ranked second after Indonesia in exporting shrimp to Japan. Exports to the Chinese market declined substantially in terms of value and volume. Decline in exports to China has been due mainly to non-realisation of export proceeds etc. Exports to market of Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam declined considerably due to devaluation of their currencies. Exports of Cuttlefish and Squid which are major items in the export basket of marine products suffered a decline in volume and value terms, though the unit value realisation from squid increased. The exports of frozen fish also suffered a decline.

(c) Some of the steps taken by the Government of India through the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) for boosting the exports of marine products from India include, inter-alia, implementation of schemes for procurement of equipment used by the processing industry, development of new prawn farms, authorising MPEDA to conduct a market research in respect of US market, participating in seafood related fairs abroad, conducting market survey in the market of China, South Korea and Taiwan, conducting demonstration programmes for propagating eco-friendly aquaculture, laying thrust upon diversified aquaculture, approving a project for identifying the problems aimed at containing disease in shrimp farms, setting up a Special Task Force for looking into financial needs of the industry and stressing upon the necessity of promoting exports of value added products from India.