

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2369
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2004
MARINE PRODUCTS EXPORT
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the marine products export potential of States like Orissa, Karnataka and Maharashtra have not been fully exploited;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken to increase the export of marine products;
- (d) the target set for marine export for 2004-05;
- (e) whether Government is aware that there is any proposal by US to improve additional duty on import of marine products from India; and
- (f) if so, steps taken by the Government to prevent such a move?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a) & (b) Separate State-wise information is not available on the ultimate marine fishery potential. However, estimates regarding the potential of brackish water area are available. It is estimated that 1.20 million hectares of brackish water area in India can be used for shrimp culture. Presently, only 1,71,353 hectares have been developed for shrimp culture, which amounts to only 14.4% of the potential available. In respect of Orissa, Karnataka and Maharashtra, the area developed as percentage of the available potential is 40.76%, 42.94% and 1.32% respectively. However, the potential for further increase is affected by the Supreme Court verdict of 11th December, 1996 prohibiting the setting up of aquaculture industry/farms other than traditional and improved traditional type of farming in the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) area and the increased risk of disease due to wide-spread viral infection.

(c) In order to increase the exports of marine products, Government have been taking several steps, which include schemes for extending financial assistance to the seafood processing industry; steps to upgrade processing facilities to meet international standards of hygiene and quality; expansion of aquaculture; imparting training to aquaculture farmers to adopt sound management practices to prevent outbreak of diseases; assistance to produce value-added products for export; marketing support; etc.

(d) A target of US \$ 1300 million has been fixed for export of marine products during 2004-05.

(e) & (f) The Southern Shrimp Alliance (SSA) of USA has filed an Anti-dumping action against selected shrimp exporting countries, including India, in the USA. The Seafood Exporters Association of India (SEAI) has been taking necessary steps to defend the interests of shrimp exporters of India in this action. The Government have been providing all necessary assistance in this regard.