

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4072
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2005
EXPORT OF TEA
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether a delegation of the Tea Board visited Egypt, Iran and the United Arab Emirates;
- (b) if so, whether the visit is aimed at boosting tea exports from India;
- (c) whether there has been a great demand for Assam orthodox tea;
- (d) the other purpose of the visit of the Board;
- (e) whether any agreement with these countries has been signed; and
- (f) if so, the extent to which the visit is likely to be proved successful by boosting exports?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes Sir.

(c): While Iran and United Arab Emirates are orthodox tea consuming countries, Egypt is a CTC (Cut-Tear-Curl) tea consuming country. As per the available information, there is demand for Assam orthodox teas in UAE and Iran.

(d): The purpose of the visit was for establishing contacts and building business relationship with a view to increase tea exports from India to Egypt, Iran and the United Arab Emirates.

(e) : No Sir.

(f): The visit of the delegation has helped in generating much goodwill which is expected to result in increased tea exports from India.