

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3679

ANSWERED ON:16.05.2006

EXPORT OF AGRO PRODUCT

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

- (a) the value of agro export of various products during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the potential in generation of employment in rural areas by increase in export of agro products;
- (c) the mechanism available to meet strict norms created by importing countries of our agro products;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to encourage export of agro products and create a new mechanism to address the demand of exporters;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government has received any proposal from Tunisia and other countries regarding import of agro products;
- g) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- h) the percentage of export/import of agro products of the total export/import during the last three years and the current year; and
- i) the steps taken by the Government to double the export share in world market ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ( SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) Value of agro-products (excluding marine products, tea, coffee, castor oil shellac and cotton including waste) exported during the last three years, in dollar terms, is given below :

Year	Value (US\$ Million)
2002-2003	4674
2003-2004	5224
2004-2005 #	5766
2005-2006# (April-December)	4914

#Provisional (Source: DGCI&S)

(b) Estimates on potential of employment generation in rural areas by increase in exports of agri-products cannot be quantified. However, with the increase in production of the agro products to meet the increased export demand, the employment opportunities for agricultural workers in rural areas also increase.

(c) In order to facilitate world wide access for Indian exports and to ensure that the Indian products meet international norms of quality and safety, the Export Inspection Council of India has been undertaking inspection, testing and certification activities for various products meant for exports. Similarly, Ministry of Agriculture has also authorized a large number of officials of Union and State Governments to issue phyto-sanitary certificates for agri-products exported from the country.

(d) & (e) Encouraging export is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage export of agro products through measures and incentives under plan schemes of the Commodity Boards etc. Systematic improvements to facilitate exports is an ongoing process and whenever required, the Government reviews these procedures, with a view to simplify the same.

(f) & (g): No specific proposal has been received from the Government of Tunisia. However, our exporters/agencies have been receiving export orders of agro-products from various agencies, private individuals and firms of other countries.

(h) The percentage of export/import of agro products of the total export/import (US \$ terms) during the last three years is as under:

Year	Export (%)	Import (%)
2002-03	8.77	4.88
2003-04	8.29	4.73
2004-05#	7.37	3.53
2005-06 (Apr. - Dec.)	6.80	2.77

# Provisional

(i) In the Foreign Trade Policy, the Government spelt out a bold vision to double India's share in the world trade within five years. For achieving this objective, the Government of India has taken a number of steps, which are detailed in the Foreign Trade Policy. The frame work of Government's approach is described in the Preamble to the Foreign Trade Policy. Electronic copies of the Policy can be accessed at . Copies of these documents are also available in the Parliament Library.