

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2095  
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2009  
EXPORT OF IRON ORE AND FRUITS  
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**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) the countries to whom iron-ore and fruits were exported during the last three years alongwith the quantities and the export price thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has accorded priority to the export of iron-ore despite growing domestic demand whereas adequate steps are not being taken to enhance the export of fruits and vegetables;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) Country-wise export of iron ore during the last three years i.e. 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 (provisional) is as under:

(Quantity in Lakh tonnes)

Country	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
	(Provisional)		
China	801.60	919.82	978.48
Japan	86.32	77.03	54.29
South Korea	19.08	17.63	9.86
Europe	20.69	16.18	7.55
Others	10.21	12.04	8.47
Total	937.90	1042.70	1058.65

Source: Goa Mineral Ore Exporters Association (GMOEA), Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL), MMTC Limited.

**Benchmark and spot prices of iron ore export are as under:**

Price in US\$/DMT FOB Basis

Year Benchmark Price Spot Price - Range

Baila Doni Baila Doni Iron Ore Fines  
Lump Lump Fines Fines

2006-07	59.08	57.08	45.83	45.83	51-65
2007-08	64.68	62.50	50.19	50.19	65-157
2008-09	127.10	122.82	90.28	90.28	52-145

Note: 1) Benchmark prices are finalized for the full year and as such there is no change during the year. 2) Spot prices are for 63.5/63% Fe grade iron ore fines. These prices change on transaction to transaction as also for different ports during the year. 3) Spot prices for lumps are not available.

The details regarding export of fruits to various countries during the last three years are available on the websites

www.commerce.gov.in, dgciskol.nic.in and www.apeda.com. The Summary of fruits exports is given below:

Qty: MTs. Val : Rs Lakhs

Product 2006-07 2007-08 2008-09#

Qty Val Qty Val Qty Val

Mangoes	79061	14194	54351	12742	78137	14915
Grapes		85563	30059	96723	3171	58228
Walnuts	5063	11804	6716	16208	4273	11155
Other		177638	30997	207701	30453	209747
Fresh						
fruits						
Total		347325	87054	365491	62574	350385
				80555		

# Data for April'08-Jan'09 only. Source : Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCIS)

(b) to (d) Government has not assigned any inter-se priorities amongst various commodities for exports. Iron ore export and Fruits & Vegetable export are entirely different. In respect of Fruit and Vegetable export there are a number of incentive schemes for development of infrastructure, promotion of Agri Export Zones, opening of market access, participation in international trade fairs and financial assistance for (a) infrastructure Development for setting up sorting/grading facilities, pack houses, effluent treatment plants, water softening plants, intermediate storage sheds etc (b) Quality Development for purchase of laboratory testing equipment, implementation of quality management systems like ISO/HACCP/ TNC/BRC/TQM etc (c) Market Promotion: for brand publicity through advertisement and packaging (d) Research & Development: for getting export oriented need based research conducted (e) Transport Assistance: to subsidize freight so as to make the produce cost competitive in global market and (f) Marketing Development Assistance: for participation in international trade fairs. Accordingly the Fruits and Vegetables exports have persistently grown in the last few years – Between 2007-08 and 2008-09 export of fruits has grown by 47.88% in quantity terms and 50.66% in value terms and growth in vegetable export is 64.73% and 51.85% respectively during the same period. On the other hand nearly 90% of iron ore exported is that of fines which have no domestic market. There are no schemes to encourage iron ore export rather the rail freight on iron ore is differentially far higher than domestic freight and there is 5% ad valorem export duty on iron ore lumps.