

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1916
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013
EXPORT OF SEAFOOD AND PRAWNS
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of seafood, prawns, fresh and dry fishes produced, exported and imported in the country during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government provides any financial assistance or infrastructural assistance to the exporters/State Governments/aqua culturists to boost the production and export of seafood and fishes from the country and if so, the details of the funds released during the said period, year and State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any minimum support price or export price for sale and export of prawns and other seafood products and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the United States of America has imposed any restriction/bar/countervailing duty on the import of prawns from India; and
- (e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto along with the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure quality control and boost the production and export of seafood, prawns and fishes from the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) The item wise seafood exports from the country for the last three years are given below:-

Item wise Export for last 3 years

(Q: Quantity in Tons, V: Value in ` Crore, \$: US\$ Million)

| Item | 2012 - 2013 | 2011 - 2012 | 2010 - 2011 |
|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Frozen Shrimp | Q: 2,28,620 | 1,89,125 | 1,51,465 |
| | V: 9,706.36 | 8,175.26 | 5,718.13 |
| | \$: 1,803.26 | 1,741.20 | 1,261.81 |
| Frozen Fish | Q: 3,43,876 | 3,47,118 | 3,12,358 |
| | V: 3,296.86 | 3,284.15 | 2,623.89 |
| | \$: 617.59 | 683.50 | 583.48 |
| Fr. Cuttle Fish | Q: 63,296 | 54,671 | 59,159 |
| | V: 1,354.28 | 1,346.72 | 1,104.57 |
| | \$: 251.54 | 282.72 | 244.62 |
| Fr. Squid | Q: 75,387 | 77,373 | 87,579 |
| | V: 1,378.08 | 1,228.19 | 1,010.57 |
| | \$: 256.90 | 262.72 | 223.67 |
| Dried items | Q: 72,953 | 53,721 | 79,059 |
| | V: 819.90 | 562.65 | 954.94 |
| | \$: 152.81 | 117.66 | 212.22 |
| Live items | Q: 4,373 | 4,199 | 5,208 |
| | V: 197.89 | 154.61 | 142.15 |
| | \$: 36.82 | 32.46 | 31.46 |
| Chilled items | Q: 26,868 | 21,278 | 21,118 |
| | V: 537.11 | 357.42 | 257.54 |
| | \$: 99.87 | 74.03 | 56.93 |
| Others | Q: 1,12,841 | 1,14,538 | 97,145 |
| | V: 1,565.78 | 1,488.24 | 1,089.67 |
| | \$: 292.86 | 314.16 | 242.72 |
| Total | Q: 9,28,215 | 8,62,021 | 8,13,091 |
| | V: 18,856.26 | 16,597.23 | 12,901.47 |
| | \$: 3,511.67 | 3,508.45 | 2,856.92 |

MPEDA is not collecting data about production and import of seafoods. However, as part of promotion of export oriented aquaculture some informations are gathered. As per our records the quantum of Shrimp and Prawn produced through aquaculture during the last

three years is given below: -

(Quantity in MT)

| Species | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | 2012-13 |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Tiger Shrimp | 1,18,575 | 1,35,466 | 1,23,303 |
| L. vannamei | 18,247 | 80,717 | 1,47,516 |
| Scampi | 8,778 | 7,993 | 6,456 |
| Total | 1,45,600 | 2,24,176 | 2,77,275 |

(b) Yes. MPEDA has been extending financial assistance to the marine products exporters and the aqua farmers to boost the production and export of marine products. The details of the scheme and financial assistance released during the last three years State-wise are given in Annex - 1.

(c) No. Government has not fixed any minimum support price for sale of aquaculture produce.

Shrimp and prawn are highly perishable commodities. They have to be harvested on reaching marketable size, processed and marketed immediately for preserving export quality. The government cannot purchase the produce and preserve it for long with the hope of improving price situations etc. Further prices are influenced by various factors such as demand-supply situation in the international markets, domestic prices, economic conditions of the importing countries, logistics and international supply chain issues.

(d) United States of America has imposed antidumping duty on Frozen Shrimp exports from India. United States Department of Commerce had initiated countervailing duty investigations into Frozen Shrimps exports from India & has preliminarily determined a cash deposit rate of 5.91% for frozen shrimp exports from India.

(e) 1) Government has taken necessary legal steps by engaging legal consultancy firms in India and USA to contest imposition of Countervailing Duty (CVD) on Import of shrimp by United States of America. Department of Commerce and Ministry of External Affairs (Embassy of India in USA) are working together for favorable resolution of the issue.

2) In order to boost the production and export of seafood, prawns and fishes from the country, MPEDA is implementing a number of aquaculture promotional activities. A list of which is given in Annexure 2. To ensure quality control of aquaculture products, MPEDA is operating a number of schemes. The schemes include: Organizing awareness campaign; Organizing training programme for sustainable aquaculture and production of residue free produce; Promotion of aqua farmers welfare society, their registration with MPEDA for adoption of code of practices; pre-harvest testing of aquaculture produce; and Implementation of National Residue Control Plan.