

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4423
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2009
TRADE IN BRASS ITEMS
Azharuddin Shri Mohammed

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of import and export trade in brass items during the last three years;
- (b) whether the brass exports has witnessed decline in the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has initiated or proposes to initiate any scheme to infuse growth in the declining level of international trade in handicrafts in general and brass in particular; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith its impact particularly on trade in brass items?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a): As reported by Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), the exports specifically of brass items as well as of Artmetalware comprising of brass, copper, aluminium, EPNS etc. for the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in Crores)
2006-07 2007-08 2008-09

Brassware 3458.95 2743.82 1497.35

Other Metal ware 676.11 562.23 292.92

Total: 4135.06 3306.05 1790.27

The import figures, however are not maintained in Ministry of Textiles.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. During 2007-08 and 2008-09 brassware exports have declined because of economic slow-down in the target foreign Markets.

(d) & (e): To infuse growth in the declining level of international trade in handicrafts including brass-ware, measures taken include; all handicrafts exports to be treated as Special Focus Products and will be entitled to Duty Scrip equivalent to 5% of FOB value of export made from 27-08-2009 onwards; reduction in Custom Duty from 3% to 0% on Export Promotion Capital Goods; additional Duty Credit Scrip to status Holders @ 1% of FOB value of the past exports. Participation in Fairs/Exhibitions abroad; organizing Indian Handicrafts and Gifts Fair twice a year, organizing Thematic exhibition; Organizing programmes for packaging and export procedure; organization of buyer-sellers meet; workshop/seminar and Stand Alone Shows for brand image promotion of Indian Handicrafts abroad; organizing seminars/ workshops in important Craft/Centres by Handicraft Export Promotion Council.