

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE**

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 406.  
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**MANUFACTURING OF FIREWORKS**

**\*406. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU:**

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

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) the total quantity, value and percentage of fireworks manufactured in the country particularly from Tamil Nadu during the last three years;
- (b) the details of fireworks exported during the said period and the amount of foreign exchange earned therefrom;
- (c) whether there is reduction in the same over the years and if so, the details thereof, year-wise;
- (d) whether the Government is aware of the recent and frequent incidents of accidents reported in fireworks factories resulting in a number of casualties and serious injuries to work force engaged in the industry; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise and the steps taken by the Government to protect the industry

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)  
**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

**(a) to (e):** A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 406 FOR ANSWER ON 24.03.2021.**

**(a):** As per Rule 24(3) of Explosives Rules 2008, fireworks manufacturers are exempted from submission of quarterly return of fireworks production. Hence the information on the total quantity, value and percentage of fireworks manufactured is not maintained.

**(b) & (c):** The details of Fireworks exported in last three years is given below:

Year	Quantity exported (kgs) (as per DGFT)	Value of Exports (as per DGFT records)
2018-2019	57423	41,96,404.40 INR 58609 USD
2019-2020	15686	23,33,730.40 INR 32594 USD
2020-21	11500 (till December 2020)	81,46,290 INR 113775 USD (till December 2020)

[Exchange rate taken as 71.60 on 19.03.2021 as notified by Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs]

**(d) & (e):** Petroleum and Explosive Safety Organisation (PESO) and the concerned District Authorities are aware of the recent accidents which occurred in Fireworks factories in Virudhunagar Districts Tamil Nadu which resulted in casualties and injuries to workers. The total number of accidents that happened during last 3 years in fireworks manufacturing industries and compensation provided by the Government to the affected victims/families is as under:

Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (till 23.03.2021)
Number of accidents	16	14	9

(Source: PESO)

The District Administration, Government of Tamil Nadu has given compensation as follows:

Year	Number of Deaths	Amount
2018-19	2	Rs. 2 lakh
2019-20	17	Rs. 51 lakhs
2020-21	31	Rs 70 lakhs

(Source: PESO and Government of Tamil Nadu)

PESO and District Authorities visited the accident premises and the licences issued to the manufacturers were suspended. Preliminary investigations has been conducted by PESO in last two accidents that have taken place at Sree Mariammal Fireworks Factory, Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu on 12.02.2021 and at Thangaraj Pandian Fireworks,

Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu on 25.02.2021. Also, the District Magistrate, Virudhunagar has been requested to conduct Magisterial inquiry as per Section 9 of the Explosives Act 1884. Besides, the Honourable National Green Tribunal Principal Bench, New Delhi has constituted a committee of experts under the chairmanship of Justice Kannan (Retd. High Court Judge, Punjab & Haryana High Court) to investigate into causes, circumstances and other factors leading to the accident at Sree Mariammal Fireworks on 12th February 2021. The committee had visited the accident premises on 26-02-2021.

To prevent accidents in fireworks industries, PESO conducts regular inspection of licensed fireworks factory premises. During the inspection, if serious violation is noticed, penal action is being taken against the licensee as per the Explosives Act, 1884 and Explosives Rules, 2008. Further PESO has conducted safety awareness programs for various section of fireworks fraternity like foreman, factory workers, transporters and retailers with regard to safe manufacturing and handling of fireworks.

The details pertaining to number of inspections, suspension / cancellation of licence and training programs conducted by PESO Sivakasi for last three years is given below:-

S. No.	Details	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21 (till December 2020)
1	No. of Inspection carried out by PESO	541	235	398
2	No. of Suspension of licence	58	65	47
3	Cancellation of Licence	10	10	01
4.	No. of Trainings / Awareness Programs conducted	42	51	30

(Data source: PESO)

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