

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1272
ANSWERED ON 03/12/2024

STRATEGY TO BOOST SEAFOOD EXPORTS

1272. SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:
SHRI KOTA SRINIVASA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are plans for an adoption of a new strategy to boost seafood exports, especially in light of the global pandemic and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of current status of the volume of export of seafood from the country during the last two years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether exports have been diverted via the Cape of Good Hope route and the impact of this on the seafood export from the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether export from India are continuing as the sailings of containers carrying ships from India in view of diversions, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of measures taken to support the exporters hit by increase in freight cost?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) The Government through Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), a statutory organisation under administrative control of Department of Commerce has undertaken various measures for export promotion of marine products from the country, especially in the light of the global pandemic. These measures inter-alia include participation in International trade fairs, organising Buyer-Seller Meets (BSMs) both in virtual & physical mode, Reverse Buyer Seller Meets (RBSMs) and providing financial support for processing and exporting seafood based value-added products. In order to tap export potential in new markets, MPEDA has also carried out product & country specific profiling for various seafood products. With a view to promote Ease of Doing Business for the seafood exporters, MPEDA has completely digitized the process of issuing export facilitation certificates and rationalized various regulatory compliances.

Further, MPEDA has established a Nucleus Breeding Centre for the Specific Pathogen-Free (SPF) Tiger Shrimp breeding project in Andaman Island which is expected to make India

self-reliant and boost shrimp production as well as its exports. In order to make Indian seafood based value added products competitive in International markets, the Government, in the Budget 2024-25 has announced reduction of Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on various key aquaculture ingredients/inputs (used for prawn/shrimp feed or fish feed) such as reduction of duty from 15% to Nil on Fish lipid Oil (HS 1504 20) & Algal prime (flour) (HS 2102 2000), 5% to Nil on Krill meal (HS 2301 20), 30% to Nil on Crude Fish oil and 5% to Nil on Mineral and Vitamin Premixes (HS 2309 90 90).

Apart from this, the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) rates have also been increased from 2.5% to 3.1% for various seafood products and maximum value cap per kg has been increased to Rs. 69.00.

MPEDA also conducts a number of training programs such as Harbour & Pre-processing centre-based training for fisherfolks on good handling practices, reduction of post-harvest losses, quality and standards related requirements of importing countries, training on value addition in seafood exports and training on Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Points (HACCP) for quality control technologists etc.

As a result of these efforts, the seafood exports from India has increased from USD 5957.37 million in 2020-21 to USD 7372.00 million in 2023-24 registering a growth of 23.74%.

(b) the details of current status of the volume of export of seafood from the country during the last two years, State/UT-wise is given in the **Annexure**.

(c) to (e) Exports from India are continuing as the sailings of containers carrying ships from India have been diverted via the Cape of Good Hope route. Despite the challenges, the seafood exports increased in quantity terms from 17.54 Lakh Tonnes in the year 2022-23 to 18.19 Lakh Tonnes in the year 2023-24, registering a growth of 3.73%.

Some increase in freight cost has been reported by industry. Government has been keeping watch over the interests of exporters, including seafood exporters. During heightened activities, Indian Navy had substantially enhanced maritime surveillance efforts in Central / North Arabian Sea and augmented force levels. Aerial surveillance by long-range maritime patrol aircraft and Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) system had been enhanced to have a complete maritime domain awareness. Towards effective surveillance of exclusive economic zone (EEZ), Indian Navy is operating in close coordination with Coast Guard.

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1272 for answer on 03.12.2024.

State-wise Volume of Export of Indian Marine Products in last 2 years		
State/UT	Quantity (in Lakh Tonnes)	
	2022-23	2023-24*
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.005	0.003
Andhra Pradesh	3.870	4.272
Assam	0.004	0.004
Bihar	0.005	0.018
Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.034	0.032
Delhi	0.000	0.000
Goa	0.808	0.738
Gujarat	2.934	3.451
Haryana	0.000	0.000
Jharkhand	0.000	0.000
Karnataka	2.984	2.735
Kerala	2.116	1.887
Madhya Pradesh	0.000	0.000
Maharashtra	1.665	1.701
Meghalaya	0.000	0.000
Odisha	0.819	0.818
Puducherry	0.001	0.002

Punjab	0.001	0.001
Rajasthan	0.000	0.000
Tamil Nadu	0.914	0.890
Telangana	0.013	0.030
Uttar Pradesh	0.006	0.008
Uttarakhand	0.000	0.000
West Bengal	1.361	1.607
Unspecified	0.001	0.000
Total	17.542	18.196

Source: DGCIS

*Provisional data
