

Items	% Growth
Gems & Jewellery	35.92
Chemicals & related products	13.79
Engineering goods	18.79
Textiles	7.10
Agri. & allied products	7.22

(c) The major sectors which have lagged behind during April-July, 2002-03 are plantations, marine products, leather and leather manufactures, electronic goods and petroleum products.

(d) The export growth rate of 13.5% in the first half of the year is above the target of 12%. Steps are being taken to further boost exports. The EXIM Policy for 2002-07 incorporates a number of measures to proactively promote exports. Some of the major initiatives undertaken by the Government to boost exports of merchandise goods include launching the scheme of Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development for Exports, strengthening of Market Access Initiative, establishing Agri Export Zones, incorporating additional features and facilities for Special Economic Zones, launching of "Focus Africa" Programme, etc. Besides these, a Medium Term Export Strategy 2002-07 which was announced this year, has identified 220 Focus Products and 25 Focus Markets to achieve 1% share in world exports by 2006-07.

Herbs pending for patents

1214. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the list of herbal patents obtained, so far; and
- (b) the list of herbs which are pending for obtaining patents, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) and (b) Herbs or herbals, *per se*, are not patentable under the provisions of the Patents Act, 1970 and will not be patentable even under the patent law recently amended.

Import of garlic by Karnataka

1215. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Karnataka has imported garlic from China; and