

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 113**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS**

**\*113(H). SHRI RAJU SHETTY:**  
**SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:**

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

- a) the total quantum and value of agricultural products exported from the country during the last three years and the current year, product, country and yearwise;
- b) India's share in world export of agricultural products and its position in comparison with world leading exporters of agricultural products;
- c) the steps taken by the Government to boost the export of agricultural products from the country; and
- d) whether the Government is considering to export organic agricultural products under the 'Make in India' programme and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

a) to d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 113 FOR ANSWER ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015  
REGARDING “EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ”**

- (a) The details of total quantum and value of agricultural products exported from the country, product-wise and year-wise, are at **Annexure-I**. Country-wise details (Top 5 countries) in respect of major commodities are at **Annexure-II**.
- (b) As per World Trade Organization (WTO) International Trade Statistics 2015 (based on trade in 2014), India's share in world exports of agricultural products was 2.5%. India ranks 7th among the leading exporters of agricultural products.
- (c) Encouraging exports of agricultural products is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage exports of agro products through measures and incentives under Plan schemes of the Commodity Boards and Export Promotion Councils. Besides these measures, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI) and Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme (MEIS) etc. to provide assistance to encourage exports.
- (d) Organic products are exported under the National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) notified by Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the Foreign Trade (Development & Regulations) Act, 1992. This programme involves accreditation of Certification Bodies, standards for organic production, promotion of organic farming etc. The NPOP standards for production and accreditation system have been recognized by the European Commission and Switzerland as equivalent to their country standards. Similarly, USDA has recognized NPOP conformity assessment procedures of accreditation as equivalent to that of US. With these recognitions, Indian organic products, duly certified by the accredited Certification Bodies of India, are accepted by these importing countries.

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## India's Export of Agricultural Products year-wise

Quantity in thousand MT; Values in US\$ Millions

S. No.	Commodity	2012-2013		2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016 (April - October)(P)	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	Marine Products	965.10	3464.08	1000.82	5016.46	1073.97	5510.49	581.52	2899.85
2	Buffalo Meat	1076.10	3201.14	1365.64	4350.23	1475.54	4781.18	716.11	2257.02
3	Rice -Basmati	3459.83	3564.04	3754.10	4864.69	3698.93	4516.28	2388.82	2172.52
4	Rice(Other than Basmati)	6687.85	2651.97	7148.47	2925.05	8278.23	3336.84	3824.16	1398.39
5	Spices	932.59	2786.12	896.57	2497.22	926.02	2430.35	491.29	1472.71
6	Cotton Raw Incl. Waste	-	3747.73	1947.70	3637.53	1142.53	1900.19	398.01	589.79
7	Guergam Meal	406.32	3919.23	601.97	1979.63	665.11	1551.87	182.93	320.66
8	Oil Meals	6578.17	3038.60	6576.51	2796.34	3904.59	1324.17	1332.90	362.48
9	Cashew	104.09	746.97	120.74	842.30	134.57	909.26	59.08	452.58
10	Sugar	2793.78	1574.62	2477.64	1177.03	1955.19	871.41	1639.48	611.81
11	Other Cereals	5441.31	1505.16	4637.54	1204.11	3514.35	869.11	645.48	162.33
12	Wheat	6514.82	1934.24	5572.03	1569.03	2924.05	828.75	415.92	102.50
13	Coffee	254.02	866.13	253.90	798.80	221.40	814.02	147.70	460.25
14	Sesame Seeds	299.48	528.08	257.44	592.14	375.66	772.27	162.15	251.83
15	Castor Oil	565.99	792.75	544.80	725.68	546.53	770.49	324.35	408.59
16	Fresh Vegetables	2343.88	627.08	2291.75	886.12	2061.00	763.24	923.63	388.05
17	Groundnut	535.64	747.39	509.75	525.67	708.39	760.37	219.74	278.07
18	Tea	268.80	865.97	249.91	798.76	215.41	681.79	137.70	414.98
19	Tobacco Unmanufactured	230.41	701.44	237.11	789.04	219.57	680.01	111.90	351.37
20	Processed Fruits & Juices	-	473.42	-	547.12	-	592.26	-	330.38
21	Fresh Fruits	534.62	496.06	525.22	608.96	486.94	516.26	231.06	244.56
22	Cereal Preparations	292.69	411.79	319.55	471.31	305.43	496.41	188.15	298.47
23	Misc Processed Items	-	340.62	-	418.03	-	453.66	-	268.07
24	Alcoholic Beverages	-	355.19	-	401.51	-	369.59	-	184.14
25	Dairy Products	-	427.53	-	727.52	-	355.83	-	161.67
26	Processed Vegetables	-	202.66	-	213.04	-	281.75	-	145.82
27	Tobacco Manufactured	-	222.69	-	222.31	-	278.61	-	169.05
28	Pulses	202.67	236.39	345.55	290.27	222.14	199.86	130.44	122.51
29	Other Oil Seeds	87.59	76.28	194.46	155.17	247.54	185.03	116.89	86.13
30	Milled Products	273.55	111.07	419.26	166.15	419.86	168.76	259.99	101.10
31	Cocoa Products	19.08	54.03	16.23	93.96	20.88	138.87	19.55	108.34
32	Sheep/Goat Meat	15.29	78.35	22.61	115.36	23.61	135.71	13.92	81.15
33	Poultry Products	-	91.22	-	93.02	-	106.38	-	71.37
34	Vegetable Oils	36.09	85.92	23.01	53.38	42.05	94.56	15.23	46.35
35	Floriculture Products	-	77.79	-	75.31	-	75.40	-	43.32
36	Fruits / Vegetable Seeds	17.17	63.70	19.34	68.80	12.50	69.96	3.61	42.48
37	Shellac	3.60	73.84	7.75	84.95	5.24	43.80	3.52	14.40
38	Mollases	342.15	40.83	211.65	24.53	247.61	31.61	179.77	32.42
39	Niger Seeds	17.90	16.55	20.84	18.69	18.16	17.71	10.30	13.97
40	Cashew Nut Shell Liquid	9.19	5.50	9.48	6.35	10.94	9.10	6.84	5.82
41	Natural Rubber	31.59	108.61	10.03	27.49	3.06	7.06	3.52	24.20
42	Animal Casings	0.65	3.94	0.35	4.73	0.26	3.18	0.15	1.80
43	Processed Meat	0.80	1.73	0.51	1.29	0.41	2.29	0.28	0.95
44	Other Meat	0.19	0.43	0.27	0.55	0.26	0.44	0.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>		<b>41318.88</b>		<b>42865.63</b>		<b>38706.18</b>		<b>17954.25</b>

Source: DGCI&amp;S;

(P) Provisional

## Annexure – II

### Top 5 destinations for India's Export of Agricultural Products Marine Products

Quantity in thousand MT; Value in US \$ Million

Country	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (April - October)(P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
U S A	127.06	737.86	110.02	1267.88	128.80	1457.50	100.28	859.20
Vietnam	187.23	483.42	256.75	963.53	276.38	1102.91	129.24	513.23
Japan	70.54	356.93	70.29	406.95	78.61	447.27	46.93	270.94
Belgium	23.69	143.25	25.04	214.60	23.60	202.99	14.35	106.68
Spain	44.86	171.00	43.97	166.27	50.47	205.36	30.23	114.70
Others	511.72	1571.62	494.76	1997.23	516.10	2094.46	260.49	1035.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>965.10</b>	<b>3464.08</b>	<b>1000.82</b>	<b>5016.46</b>	<b>1073.97</b>	<b>5510.49</b>	<b>581.52</b>	<b>2899.85</b>

### Buffalo Meat

Quantity in thousand MT; Value in US \$ Million

Country	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (April - October)(P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Vietnam	302.13	943.65	524.18	1795.57	633.35	2152.86	279.03	942.96
Egypt	71.25	230.59	107.82	338.22	128.08	422.34	83.49	265.86
Malaysia	115.36	357.44	121.71	388.67	130.88	422.94	78.70	242.26
Saudi Arabia	69.62	215.53	74.60	247.11	73.82	259.01	35.08	122.79
Algeria	41.72	117.56	48.84	139.63	42.67	125.14	21.94	64.18
Others	476.02	1336.37	488.49	1441.03	466.74	1398.89	217.87	618.97
<b>Total</b>	<b>1076.10</b>	<b>3201.14</b>	<b>1365.64</b>	<b>4350.23</b>	<b>1475.54</b>	<b>4781.18</b>	<b>716.11</b>	<b>2257.02</b>

### Basmati Rice

Quantity in thousand MT; Value in US \$ Million

Country	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (April - October)(P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Saudi Arabia	681.19	672.64	826.12	1108.90	966.93	1188.23	573.72	535.91
Iran	1082.22	1187.23	1440.45	1834.55	935.57	1108.50	389.82	342.84
UAE	234.64	240.42	147.90	196.51	278.60	314.76	363.74	299.54
Iraq	204.26	196.73	219.61	271.14	235.45	259.13	280.14	236.54
Kuwait	163.32	194.73	175.54	247.95	166.47	250.53	123.02	154.85
Others	1094.20	1072.29	944.48	1205.64	1115.91	1395.13	658.38	602.84
<b>Total</b>	<b>3459.83</b>	<b>3564.04</b>	<b>3754.10</b>	<b>4864.69</b>	<b>3698.93</b>	<b>4516.28</b>	<b>2388.82</b>	<b>2172.52</b>

### Non-Basmati Rice

Quantity in thousand MT; Value in US \$ Million

Country	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (April - October)(P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Senegal	854.56	267.90	651.98	195.74	765.02	226.03	545.88	148.48
Benin	576.55	239.73	1166.85	485.17	598.57	247.12	415.95	145.47
Guinea	281.85	106.01	221.77	87.67	397.72	152.88	237.59	80.54
Nepal	396.59	106.18	406.16	119.80	621.89	214.31	278.30	95.10
Cote D' Ivoire	596.85	216.21	261.51	98.67	259.69	97.93	225.61	77.02
Others	3981.47	1715.94	4440.20	1938.00	5635.34	2398.57	2120.83	851.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>6687.85</b>	<b>2651.97</b>	<b>7148.47</b>	<b>2925.05</b>	<b>8278.23</b>	<b>3336.84</b>	<b>3824.16</b>	<b>1398.39</b>

Source: DGCI&S; (P) Provisional

**Spices**

Quantity in thousand MT; Value in US \$ Million

Country	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (April - October)(P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
U S A	92.18	452.71	68.64	391.53	66.45	410.06	55.41	280.19
Vietnam	85.91	137.45	98.11	175.38	122.86	210.17	55.41	119.48
China	48.71	501.19	47.69	384.42	25.57	245.27	12.19	98.33
U K	34.52	111.99	28.00	104.11	40.27	101.18	19.33	71.90
Thailand	38.71	65.09	47.23	76.97	50.18	85.97	37.48	66.01
Others	632.56	1517.69	606.89	1364.81	620.67	1377.70	311.47	836.80
<b>Total</b>	<b>932.59</b>	<b>2786.12</b>	<b>896.57</b>	<b>2497.22</b>	<b>926.02</b>	<b>2430.35</b>	<b>491.29</b>	<b>1472.71</b>

**Cotton Incl. Waste**

Quantity in thousand MT; Value in US \$ Million

Country	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (April - October)(P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Bangladesh	NA	610.06	353.67	698.88	331.36	577.48	204.25	318.35
China	NA	2237.38	1036.77	1912.95	448.72	743.28	61.24	83.25
Vietnam	NA	166.51	120.53	220.34	151.37	241.95	39.05	55.33
Pakistan	NA	392.78	178.43	343.35	63.61	105.03	30.14	45.67
Thailand	NA	24.84	28.11	51.47	17.46	27.98	9.30	12.36
Others	NA	316.16	230.20	410.54	130.01	204.47	54.03	74.83
<b>Total</b>		<b>3747.73</b>	<b>1947.70</b>	<b>3637.53</b>	<b>1142.53</b>	<b>1900.19</b>	<b>398.01</b>	<b>589.79</b>

**Guargum Meal**

Quantity in thousand MT; Value in US \$ Million

Country	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (April - October)(P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
U S A	242.61	3180.85	332.27	1445.01	384.78	1148.60	80.45	178.25
China	32.27	252.64	56.97	160.08	38.58	83.56	17.18	28.19
Germany	12.09	69.12	16.96	55.36	19.12	45.19	8.86	16.94
Russia	5.39	54.23	10.97	51.46	15.93	43.47	7.16	14.47
Canada	5.46	66.32	8.73	37.23	16.75	50.56	5.45	11.32
Others	108.50	296.07	176.07	230.49	189.95	180.49	63.83	71.49
<b>Total</b>	<b>406.32</b>	<b>3919.23</b>	<b>601.97</b>	<b>1979.63</b>	<b>665.11</b>	<b>1551.87</b>	<b>182.93</b>	<b>320.66</b>

**Oilmeals**

Quantity in thousand MT; Value in US \$ Million

Country	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16 (April - October)(P)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Korea	950.18	259.27	1178.78	252.76	962.76	183.43	471.95	88.76
Bangladesh	354.23	168.84	560.86	221.49	450.51	182.96	168.47	58.70
Vietnam	768.07	310.91	486.12	145.08	357.70	76.16	231.70	42.86
Nepal	109.92	49.87	109.27	45.96	112.78	53.75	49.59	20.61
Thailand	593.88	291.95	419.06	161.46	294.73	77.39	57.83	14.89
Others	3801.89	1957.76	3822.42	1969.59	1726.11	750.48	353.36	136.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>6578.17</b>	<b>3038.60</b>	<b>6576.51</b>	<b>2796.34</b>	<b>3904.59</b>	<b>1324.17</b>	<b>1332.90</b>	<b>362.48</b>

Source: DGCI&amp;S; (P) Provisional

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

LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 116  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015

FOREIGN TRADE POLICY

**\*116. SHRI BHARATHI MOHAN R.K.:**

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

- a) whether the Government has announced a new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) aiming to boost India's exports;
- b) if so, the details thereof along with the main highlights of the new FTP;
- c) whether the Government has identified certain constraints/issues concerning the said policy;
- d) if so, the details thereof; and
- e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to address these constraints/issues?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 116 FOR ANSWER ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015  
REGARDING “FOREIGN TRADE POLICY”**

(a)&(b): The Government of India has announced a new Foreign Trade Policy for the period 2015-2020 on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2015. Details of the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 are available at the website of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade at <http://dgft@gov.in>. The highlights of the New Foreign trade Policy are as under :

➤ Earlier there were 5 different schemes for rewarding merchandise exports with different kinds of duty scrips with varying conditions attached to their use. Now all these schemes have been merged into a single scheme, namely Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS). Further, e-Commerce exports of certain specified employment creating sectors, made through courier or foreign post offices, have been supported under MEIS.

➤ Served from India Scheme has been replaced with Service Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) which would be available to notified services.

➤ Government has recognized two new towns, namely Visakhapatnam and Bhimavaram as “ towns of Export Excellence”.

➤ The new Foreign Trade Policy 2015-2020 is supportive of ‘Make in India’ and ‘Digital India’ programmes through steps like:

(i) Specific Export Obligation under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) scheme, in case capital goods are procured from indigenous manufacturers, has been reduced to 75% of the normal export obligation. This may help indigenous manufacturing industry of capital goods.

(ii) Under Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS), export items with high domestic content and value addition have generally been provided higher level of rewards.

(iii) All duty credit scrips issued under MEIS & SEIS and the goods imported against these scrips are fully transferable.

(IV) For reward schemes and duty exemption schemes, hard copies of applications and specified documents which were required to be submitted earlier have now been dispensed with.

(iv) Landing documents of export consignment as proof of notified market, can now be digitally uploaded as specified.

(v) There will be no need to submit copies of permanent records/ documents repeatedly with each application, once the same are uploaded in Exporter/Importer Profile.

(vi) For faster and paperless communication with various committees of DGFT, dedicated e-mail addresses have been provided for various Committees, e.g. Norms Committees, Exim Facilitation Committee, etc.

- The benefits of MEIS & SEIS have been extended to SEZs as well, which would give a new impetus to the development and growth of SEZs and exports.

(c)to(e) : Yes. The Government has identified certain constraints/issues related to the export sector and has taken necessary steps. The details are as under :

**(i) Widening the scope of MEIS by including more products, enhancing the reward rates, country coverage on the certain export products**

In the light of the major challenges being faced by Indian exporters in the backdrop of the global economic slowdown, Department of Commerce has announced increased support for export of various products and included some additional items under the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme(MEIS). This has been introduced through Public Notice No. 27 dated 14 th July 2015, Public Notice No. 28 dated 15th July 2015 and Public Notice No. 44 dated 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 issued by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade. The revision made through public notice No. 44, introduces 110 new tariff lines and increases rates or country coverage or both for 2228 existing tariff lines. The envisaged revenue outgo under this scheme has accordingly increased from Rs. 18000 crore to Rs. 21000 crore.

**(ii) High transaction cost of exports**

- To reduce the transaction cost of exports, number of mandatory documents required for exports and imports have been reduced to three (3) each for export and import. Earlier 7 documents were required for exports and 10 for imports. The saving in terms of cost and time associated with the dispensed documents would improve Ease of Doing Business in India.
- A number of IT initiatives have been introduced for providing secured online services to the exporters. These include facility for Online filing of documents/ applications, a simplified system for issuance of Importer Exporter Code (IEC) online and setting up of a Complaint Resolution System for resolution of EDI related issues. In addition, an online system has been put in place to resolve complaints received through public grievances portal of Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances

**(iii) High cost of export credit**

The issue of high cost of credit to exporters was raised by stakeholders including Export Promotion Councils. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved



Interest Equalisation Scheme @ 3% per annum on Pre Shipment Rupee Export Credit and Post Shipment Rupee Export Credit w.e.f. 01.04.2015.

### 3. Bio Data of MP who has raised the question

- R K Bharathi Mohan (born 1951) is an Indian politician and Member of Parliament elected from Tamil Nadu. He is elected to the Lok Sabha from [Mayiladuturai constituency](#) as an [Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam](#) candidate in [2014](#) election.
- He is member of Tamil Nadu Assembly from [Thiruvidadamarudur \(State Assembly Constituency\)](#) during 2006-2011.

### 4. What is the Export -Import data of 'Goods' and 'Services' in the last three years?

- The Export -Import data of 'Goods' and 'Services' is as under:

#### Export-Import Data

##### Merchandise Goods

(Amount in US\$ Billions)

S.NO.	Year	Export	Import	Net
1.	2012-13	300.4	490.7	(-)190.3
2.	2013-14	312.6	450.1	(-)137.5
3.	2014-15	310.3	448.0	(-)137.7
4.	2015-16(till October)	154.3	232.1	(-) 77.8

##### Services

(Amount in US\$ Billions)

S.NO.	Year	Export	Import	Net
1.	2012-13	145.7	80.8	64.9
2.	2013-14	151.5	78.5	73
3.	2014-15	155.4	79.8	75.7

##### Goods & Services

(Amount in US\$ Billions)

NO.	Year	Export	Import	Net
	2012-13	46.1	71.5	(-) 125.4

	013-14	64.1	28.6	) 64.5
	014-15	65.7	27.8	) 62.0

## 5. What is the layout of FTP?

It is divided in 9 chapters .Chapter-wise summary of Foreign Trade Policy is as under:

<b>Chapters</b>	<b>Particulars</b>
Chapter-1	Legal Framework and Trade Facilitation
Chapter-2	General Provisions Regarding Imports & Exports
Chapter-3	Exports From India Schemes
Chapter-4	Duty Exemption/Remission Schemes
Chapter-5	Export Promotion Capital Goods(EPCG) Scheme
Chapter-6	Export oriented units(EOUs), Electronics Hardware Technology Parks(EHTPs), Software Technology Parks(STPs) and Bio-Technology Parks(BTPs)
Chapter-7	Deemed exports
Chapter-8	Quality Complaints and Trade Disputes
Chapter-9	Definitions

## 6. What are the major features of the [FTP 2015-2020](#)?

### 1. SIMPLIFICATION & MERGER OF REWARD SCHEMES

#### **Export from India Schemes:**

#### i. **Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)**

Merchandise Exports from India Scheme has replaced 5 different schemes of earlier FTP (Focus Product Scheme, Market Linked Focus Product Scheme, Focus Market Scheme, Agri. Infrastructure Incentive Scrip, VKGUY) for rewarding merchandise exports which had varying conditions (sector specific or actual

user only) attached to their use. Now all these schemes have been merged into a single scheme, namely Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) and there would be no conditionality attached to the scrips issued under the scheme. Notified goods exported to notified markets would be rewarded on realised FOB value of exports.

## **Country Groups:**

**Category A:** Traditional Markets - European Union , USA, Canada.

**Category B:** Emerging & Focus Markets

Africa , Latin America and Mexico, CIS countries , Turkey and West Asian countries, ASEAN countries , Japan, South Korea, China, Taiwan,

**Category C:** Other Markets

### **ii. Products supported under MEIS Level of Support:**

Higher rewards have been granted for the following category of products:

- Agricultural and Village industry products, presently covered under VKGUY.
  - Value added and packaged products.
- Eco-friendly and green products that create wealth out of waste from agricultural and other waste products that generate additional income for the farmers, while improving the environment.
- Labour intensive Products with large employment potential and Products with large number of producers and /or exporters.
- Industrial Products from potential winning sectors.
  - Hi-tech products with high export earning potential.

### **iii. Markets Supported**

- Most Agricultural products supported across the Globe.
  - Industrial and other products supported in Traditional and/or Emerging markets.

### **iv. Global support has been granted to the following category:**

- Fruits, Flowers, vegetables
- Tea Coffee, Spices
- Cereals preparation, shellac, Essential oils
- Processed foods,
- Eco Friendly products that add value to waste
  - Marine Products
- Handloom, Coir, Jute, products and Technical Textiles, Carpets Handmade. Other Textile and Readymade garments have been supported for European Union, USA, Canada and Japan.
  - Handicraft, Sports Goods
  - Furniture, wood articles

-7-

### **v. Support to major markets have been given to the following product categories**

- Pharmaceuticals, Herbals, Surgicals
- Industrial Machinery, IC Engine, Machine tools, Parts, Auto Components/Parts

- Hand Tools, Pumps of All Types
- Automobiles, Two wheelers, Bicycles, Ships, Planes
- Chemicals, Plastics
- Rubber, Ceramic and Glass
- Leather garments, saddlery items, footwear
- Steel furniture, Prefabs, Lighters
- Wood , Paper, Stationary
- iron, steel, and base metals, products

vi. Rewards for export of notified goods to notified markets under 'Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) are payable as percentage of realized FOB value (in free foreign exchange). The debits towards basic customs duty in the transferable reward duty credit scrips would also be allowed adjustment as duty drawback.

vii. **e-Commerce Exports**

Goods falling in the category of handloom products, books / periodicals, leather footwear, toys and customized fashion garments, having FOB value up to Rs.25000 per consignment (finalized using e- Commerce platform) are eligible for benefits under FTP. Such goods can be exported in manual mode through Foreign Post Offices at New Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai.

Export of such goods under Courier Regulations shall be allowed manually on pilot basis through Airports at Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai as per appropriate amendments in regulations to be made by Department of Revenue. Department of Revenue shall fast track the implementation of EDI mode at courier terminals.

**2. Service Exports from India Scheme (SEIS)**

- Served From India Scheme (SFIS) has been replaced with Service Exports from India Scheme (SEIS). SEIS shall apply to 'Service Providers located in India' instead of 'Indian Service Providers'. Thus SEIS provides for rewards to all Service providers of notified services, who are providing services from India, regardless of the constitution or profile of the service provider.
- The rate of reward under SEIS are based on net foreign exchange earned. The reward issued as duty credit scrip, would no longer be with actual user condition and will no longer be restricted to usage for specified types of goods but be freely transferable and usable for all types of goods and service tax debits on procurement of services / goods. Debits are eligible for CENVAT credit or drawback.

**3. Incentives (MEIS & SEIS) to be available for SEZs**

Incentives (MEIS & SEIS) are available to units located in SEZs also.

**4. Duty credit scrips are freely transferable and usable for payment of custom duty, excise duty and service tax.**

- All scrips issued under MEIS and SEIS and the goods imported against these scrips fully transferable.

- Scrips issued under Exports from India Schemes can be used for the following:-
  - (i) Payment of customs duty for import of inputs / goods including capital goods, except items listed in Appendix 3A.
  - (ii) Payment of excise duty on domestic procurement of inputs or goods, including capital goods as per DoR notification.
  - (iii) Payment of service tax on procurement of services as per DoR notification.
- Basic Customs Duty paid in cash or through debit under Duty Credit Scrip can be taken back as Duty Drawback as per DoR Rules, if inputs so imported are used for exports.

## 5. Status Holders

- (a) Business leaders who have excelled in international trade and have successfully contributed to country's foreign trade are recognized as Status Holders and given special treatment and privileges to facilitate their trade transactions, in order to reduce their transaction costs and time.
- (b) The nomenclature of Export House, Star Export House, Trading House, Star Trading House, Premier Trading House certificate is changed to One, Two, Three, Four, Five Star Export House.
- (c) The criteria for export performance for recognition of status holder have been changed from Rupees to US dollar earnings. The new criteria is as under:-

Status category	Export Performance FOB / FOR (as converted) Value (in US \$ million) during current and previous two years
One Star Export House	3

Two Star Export House	25
Three Star Export House	100
Four Star Export House	500
Five Star Export House	2000

## 7. What steps are taken to boost to "make in india" in the FTP

### ➤ BOOST TO "MAKE IN INDIA"

Reduced Export Obligation (EO) for domestic procurement under EPCG scheme:

- Specific Export Obligation under EPCG scheme, in case capital goods are procured from indigenous manufacturers, is reduced to 75%, in order to promote domestic capital goods manufacturing industry.
- Higher level of rewards under MEIS for export items with high domestic content and value addition.
- Higher level of rewards is given to products with high domestic content and value addition, as compared to products with high import content and less value addition.

## 8. What steps are taken for trade facilitation & ease of doing business

### ➤ TRADE FACILITATION & EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

**Online filing of documents/ applications and Paperless trade in 24x7 environment:**

- DGFT already provides facility of Online filing of various applications under FTP by the exporters/importers. However, certain documents like Certificates issued by Chartered Accountants/ Company Secretary/Cost Accountant etc. have to be filed in physical forms only. In order to move further towards paperless processing of reward schemes, it has been decided to develop an online procedure to upload digitally signed documents by Chartered Accountant / Company Secretary / Cost Accountant. In the new system, it will be possible to upload online documents like annexure attached to ANF 3B, ANF 3C and ANF 3D
- Hard copies of applications and specified documents are not required to be submitted to RA, saving paper as well as cost and time for the exporters. To start with, applications under Chapter 3 & 4 of FTP are being covered (which account for nearly 70% of total applications in DGFT).
- As a measure of ease of doing business, landing documents of export consignment as proofs for notified market can be digitally uploaded in the following manner:-

- (i) Any exporter may upload the scanned copy of Bill of Entry under his digital signature.
- (ii) Status holders falling in the category of Three Star, Four Star or Five Star Export House may upload scanned copies of documents.

**9. What steps have been taken for Simplification of procedures/processes, digitisation and e-governance**

➤ **Simplification of procedures/processes, digitisation and e-governance**

- i. Under EPCG scheme, obtaining and submitting a certificate from an independent Chartered Engineer, confirming the use of spares, tools, refractory and catalysts imported for final redemption of EPCG authorizations has been dispensed with.
- ii. EPCG Authorization Holders shall be required to maintain records for a period of two years only. Government's endeavour is to gradually phase out this requirement as the relevant records such as Shipping Bills, e-BRC are likely to be available in electronic mode which can be archived and retrieved whenever required.
- iii. Exporter Importer Profile: Facility has been created to upload documents in Exporter/Importer Profile. There will be no need to submit copies of permanent records/ documents (e.g. IEC, Manufacturing licence, RCMC, PAN, etc.) repeatedly with each application, once uploaded.
- iv. Communication with Exporters/Importers: Certain information, like mobile number, e-mail address etc. has been added as mandatory fields, in IEC data base. This information once provided by exporters, would help in better communication with exporters. SMS/ email would be sent to exporters to inform them about issuance of authorisations or status of their applications.
- v. Online message exchange with CBDT and MCA: It is decided to have on line message exchange with CBDT for PAN data and with Ministry of Corporate Affairs for CIN and DIN data. This integration would obviate the need for seeking information from IEC holders for subsequent amendments/ updation of data in IEC data base.
- vi. Communication with Committees of DGFT: For faster and paperless communication with various committees of DGFT, dedicated e-mail addresses have been provided to each Norms Committee, Import Committee and Pre-Shipment Inspection Agency for faster communication.
- vii. Online applications for refunds: Online filing of application for refund of TED is being introduced for which a new ANF has been created.

**10. What steps are taken to resolve Quality complaints and Trade Disputes**

## ➤ **Quality complaints and Trade Disputes**

i. In an endeavour to resolve quality complaints and trade disputes, between exporters and importers, a new chapter, namely, Chapter on Quality Complaints and Trade Disputes has been incorporated in the Foreign Trade Policy.

ii. For resolving such disputes at a faster pace, a Committee on Quality Complaints and Trade Disputes (CQCTD) is in 22 offices and would have members from EPCs/FIEOs/APEDA/EICs.

## **11. What are the measures taken by Government to boost the falling exports from India ?**

➤ The details of measures taken by Government to boost the falling exports from India are:

- (i) New Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) launched on 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2015 with a focus on supporting both manufacturing and services exports and improving the 'Ease of Doing Business'. The policy has introduced two new schemes, namely, 'Merchandise Exports from India Scheme'(MEIS) for incentivising export of specified goods to specified markets and 'Service Exports from India Scheme' (SEIS) for increasing exports of notified services from India, by consolidating earlier schemes.
- (ii) By way of trade facilitation and enhancing the ease of doing business, Government reduced the number of mandatory documents required for exports and imports to three each, which is comparable with international benchmarks. The trade community can file applications online for various trade related schemes. Online payment of application fees through Credit/Debit Cards and electronic fund transfer from 53 Banks has been put in place.
- (iii) The Government has also expanded the coverage of Merchandise Exports from India scheme on 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 by adding 110 new items. The reward rates/country coverage of 2228 items were enhanced. Consequently the envisaged revenue outgo under the scheme was increased from Rs. 18,000/- crore earlier to Rs. 21,000/- crore per annum.
- (iv) Government has infused additional Corpus (Capital) to the tune of Rs. 375/- crore into the National Export Insurance Account (NEIA), raising the corpus to over Rs. 2,100/- crore, and strengthen the capacity to augment Project exports from the country. The equity capital of ECGC Ltd. has also been raised by Rs. 50 crore to Rs. 1,300 crore, enabling higher underwriting capacity to support exporters to expand their business and support banks for adequate lending to exporters.
- (v) Recently, the Government has approved the proposal for implementing the Interest Equalization Scheme on Pre & Post shipment Rupee Export Credit w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2015 for 5 years, incorporating an interest equalization element of 3% per annum. This scheme will facilitate access to export



credit at competitive rate of interest, given the lower interest rate level prevailing for exporters in other countries. .

- (vi) The State Governments have been requested to develop their export strategy, appoint export commissioners, address infrastructure constraints restricting movement of goods, facilitate refund of VAT/Octroi/State level cess, and address other issues relating to various clearances etc. and build capacity of new exporters, in order to promote exports.

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1152  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015

EXPORT OF FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

1152. SHRI ABHISHEK SINGH:

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

- a) whether some countries have imposed a ban on India's export of fruits and vegetables;
- b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to facilitate export of indigenous fruits and vegetables?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (निर्मला सीतारमण श्रीमती)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) Yes Madam.
- (b) The European Union (EU) had placed a temporary prohibition on import of Mangoes and certain fresh vegetables like Taro plant (Arbi), Brinjal, Bitter gourd and Snake gourd from India w.e.f. 01.04.2014. Ban on import of Mangoes has since been lifted w.e.f. 05.02.2015. For lifting of ban on the other items, the Agricultural & Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organization under the department of Commerce, has taken up the issue with EU authorities through the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (MOA&FW). MOA&FW has sent a detailed action plan to address the concerns raised by EU and requested them to lift the ban. Response is awaited from EU authorities.

Saudi Arabia has imposed ban on import of green chilly from India. A delegation comprising of representatives from Ministry of Agriculture, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia visited India from 23.10.2015 to 30.10.2015. The delegation visited APEDA approved packhouses, laboratory, National Referral Laboratory at Pune, and green chilly farms at Nashik. Outcome of the visit is awaited from Saudi Arabia authorities.

- (c) Encouraging exports of agricultural products, including fruits & vegetables, is a continuous process. APEDA provides financial assistance to exporters of horticulture produce, including indigenous fruits and vegetables, through various components of its Plan Scheme viz. Infrastructure Development, Market Promotion, Quality Development and Transport Assistance. Besides these measures, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI) and Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme (MEIS) etc. to provide assistance to encourage exports.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1165**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**COMPLAINTS AGAINST FDDI**

**1165. SHRI C.R. PATIL:**

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

- whether the Government has received any complaint regarding exorbitant fee charged by the Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI) for various courses;
- if so, the details thereof;
- whether the average package of campus placement is going down every year despite increase in the fee; and
- if so, the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to redress the grievances of the students?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a)-(b) No Sir.

(c) No Sir. The average package of campus placements during the last 3 years of all the centres of FDDI has been increasing as per the following details:

Year	Average Package
2012-2013	1.85 Lacs
2013-2014	1.86 Lacs
2014-2015	2.14 Lacs

(d) Does not arise.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1173**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**EXPORT ORIENTED INDUSTRIAL UNITS**

**1173(H). DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY:**

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

- the total number of export oriented industrial units functioning in the country at present State/UT-wise;
- the total number of proposals received to set up export oriented units and sanctioned during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and
- the number of export oriented units which have been provided with basic and other facilities to start production during the said period?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) : The total number of export oriented industrial units presently functional in the country State/UT-wise as on 02.12.2015 are as under:

State/UTs	Units	State/UTs	Units	State/UTs	Units	State/UTs	Units
A & N Island*	3	Goa, Daman & Diu	37	Maharashtra	224	Sikkim	0
Andhra Pradesh	83	Gujarat	196	Manipur	0	Tamil Nadu*	405
Arunachal Pradesh	0	Haryana	65	Meghalaya	1	Telangana	170
Assam	0	Himachal Pradesh	5	Mizoram	1	Tripura	0
Bihar	1	Jammu & Kashmir	2	Nagaland	0	Uttar Pradesh	57
Chandigarh	3	Jharkhand	2	Orissa	10	Uttarakhand	2
Chhattisgarh	1	Karnataka	445	Pondicherry*	13	West Bengal	55
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	20	Kerala	77	Punjab	10	Yanam	0
Delhi	17	Madhya Pradesh	8	Rajasthan	57	<b>Total</b>	<b>1970</b>

\*Note- Data as on 25.02.2015

(b) : The total number of proposals received to set up export oriented units and sanctioned during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise are as per Annexure-I.

(c) : Nil. There is no enabling provision in the Foreign Trade Policy/Handbook of Procedures to provide facilities to export oriented units to start production.

### Annexure-I to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1173(H) for 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015

The number of proposals received to set up export oriented units and sanctioned during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise are as under:

Zone	States	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		
		Received	Approved	Received	Approved	Received	Approved	Received	Approved	
CSEZ	Kerala	3	3	7	7	3	3	8	5	
	Karnataka	20	20	18	18	22	20	23	21	
FASEZ	West Bengal	1	1	3	0	3	1	0	0	
	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Jharkhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Orissa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Assam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Manipur	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	ISEZ	Madhya Pradesh	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
	KASEZ	Gujarat	8	6	12	12	14	11	5	2
	MEPZ*	Tamil Nadu	15	14	26	22	6	4	NA	NA
Pondichery		0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	
A & N Island		0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	
NSEZ	Delhi	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	
	Haryana	7	5	2	2	3	1	1	2	
	Uttar Pradesh	4	3	4	3	6	2	4	4	
	Punjab	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	
	Rajasthan	3	1	3	0	2	0	3	4	
	Himachal Pradesh	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	
	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Uttrakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	SEEPZ	Maharashtra	10	5	12	2	13	12	11	5
Goa, Daman & Diu		1	1	1	1	2	2	3	2	
Dadra & Nagar Haveli		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
VSEZ	Andhra Pradesh	2	1	5	1	9	8	7	5	
	Chhatisgarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	Telangana	9	9	8	7	12	9	6	6	

	Yanam	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		87	72	103	76	100	74	72	57

\*Note: Data as on 2

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1190**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**EXPORT OF SKIMMED MILK POWDER**

**1190. SHRI B. SRIRAMULU:**

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

- the quantum of skimmed milk powder exported from the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- whether the Government provides assistance under the Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana to promote the export of skimmed milk powder;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the percentage of increase in exports of skimmed milk powder as a result of such assistance?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (d): The quantum of skimmed milk powder under ITCES : 04021010 exported from the country during each of the last three years and the current year is given below :

YEAR	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (Rs. In Crores)	% growth in Value Terms
2012-13	69634	1085.55	-
2013-14	124014	2605.12	140
2014-15	27554	613.98	(-) 76.43
2014-15 (Apr-Sep)	17281	419.78	-
2015-16	6551	123.99	(-) 70.46



(Apr-Sep)			
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(Source : DGCIS)

(b)&(c): Under the Foreign Trade Policy (2009-2014), rewards /incentives for export of skimmed milk powder (ITC HS Code : 04021010) were at 5% available under the Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana (VKGUY) w.e.f. 8.6.2012. However, this benefit was withdrawn w.e.f. 15.7.2014 vide Public Notice No. 67 (RE 2013)/2009-14 dated 15.7.2014 VKGUY scheme has since been discontinued w.e.f. 1.4.2015.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1205**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**FTAS/PTAS WITH COUNTRIES**

**1205. SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:**

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

- a) the details of countries with which India has entered into Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)/Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements/ Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) along with the total trade with FTA partner countries including ASEAN countries during the last three years and the current year along with the names of the countries including European Union and USA with which Government is in talk to enter into FTA;
- b) whether the Government has made any assessment/evaluation or proposes to make any review of the impact of FTAs signed with various countries including the ASEAN countries and if so, the details thereof;
- c) whether FTAs have resulted in preferential imports from FTA partner countries and the export from the country has declined and if so, the details thereof indicating items that have recorded major increase in imports during the said period;
- d) whether any misuse or abuse of the FTA provisions have been reported during the above period and if so, the details thereof; and
- e) the measures taken by the Government to boost exports as well as protect domestic industries and agricultural sector from the adverse impact of import?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) The details of the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)/Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreements (CECAs)/Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements (CEPA) and Preferential Trade Agreements entered into by India is given in Annexure 1 and Annexure 2 respectively. The total trade with the FTA partner countries/block of countries, including ASEAN countries, during the last three years and current years (upto September, 2015) is given in Annexure 3. The name of the countries/blocks with which Government is negotiating FTA is given in Annexure -4. There is no proposal for entering into an FTA with USA.
- (b)&(c): Assessment evaluation of FTAs is a continuous process which starts even before FTA negotiations are entered into. Before entering into negotiations with its trading

partners, studies are undertaken internally, as well as through the Joint Study Group (JSG) to study the feasibility of the proposed FTAs, including their impact on the domestic stakeholders. An analysis based on the available preferential import data from some key FTA partners reveals that the percentage of overall preferential imports are low in relation to the overall imports from these partners. However, share of preferential imports to total imports is significant with some trading partners in specific sectors such as iron and steel, plastics and organic chemicals.

- (d) Misuse of FTA provisions has been alleged in certain cases. These, inter-alia, include issues in imports of flat panel television and gold jewelry from Thailand; import of cold rolled stainless steel flat products from ASEAN region; apples from Afghanistan; marble from Sri Lanka and betelnuts under SAFTA/SAPTA/India-Sri Lanka FTA etc.
- (e) In order to protect the interest of the domestic industry and agriculture sector, these trade agreements provide for maintaining sensitive/negative lists of items on which limited or no tariff concessions are granted under the FTA. In addition, in case of a surge in imports and injury to the domestic industry, a country is allowed to take recourse to the measures such as anti-dumping and safeguards. Government of India takes recourse to such measures as and when required.

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**Annexure 1**

**FTAs/CECAs/CEPAs already in force:**

<b>SN</b>	<b>Name of the Agreement</b>	<b>Date of Signing of the Agreement</b>	<b>Date of Implementation of the Agreement</b>
1	India - Sri Lanka FTA	28 <sup>th</sup> Dec.. 1998	1 <sup>st</sup> March, 2000
2	Agreement on SAFTA (India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives and Afghanistan)	4th January, 2004	1st January, 2006 <i>(Tariff concessions implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2006)</i>
3	Revised Agreement of Cooperation between Government of India and Nepal to control unauthorized trade	27 <sup>th</sup> October, 2009	27 <sup>th</sup> October, 2009
4	India - Bhutan Agreement on Trade Commerce and Transit	17 <sup>th</sup> January, 1972	Renewed periodically, with mutually agreed modifications.
5	India - Thailand FTA - Early Harvest Scheme (EHS)	9 <sup>th</sup> October, 2003.	1 <sup>st</sup> September, 2004
6	India - Singapore CECA	29th June, 2005	1st August, 2005
7	India - ASEAN- CECA - Trade in Goods Agreement (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam)	13 <sup>th</sup> August, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1st January 2010 in respect of India and Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 in respect of India and Vietnam.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> September 2010 in respect of India and Myanmar.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 in respect of India and Indonesia.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010 in respect of India and Brunei.</li> <li>• 24 January 2011 in respect of India and Laos.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011 in respect of India and the Philippines.</li> <li>• 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2011 in respect of India and Cambodia.</li> </ul>
8	India - South Korea CEPA	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2009	1 <sup>st</sup> January, 2010
9	India - Japan CEPA	16 <sup>th</sup> February, 2011	1 <sup>st</sup> August, 2011
10	India - Malaysia CECA	18 <sup>th</sup> February, 2011	1 <sup>st</sup> July, 2011
11	India-ASEAN Services and Investment Agreement (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar,	November, 2014	1 <sup>st</sup> July, 2015

Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam)		
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## Annexure 2

### PTAs already in force:

S. No.	Name of the Agreement	Date of Signing of the Agreement	Date of Implementation of the Agreement
1	Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) (Bangladesh, China, India, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka)	July, 1975 (revised on 2 <sup>nd</sup> November, 2005)	1st Nov, 1976
2	Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) (Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe)	13 <sup>th</sup> April, 1988	19 <sup>th</sup> April, 1989
3	SAARC Preferential Trading Agreement (SAPTA)(India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Maldives)	11 April, 1993	7 December, 1995
4	India - Afghanistan	6th March, 2003	13 <sup>th</sup> May, 2003
5	India - MERCOSUR (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay)	25th January, 2004	1st June, 2009
6	India - Chile	8 <sup>th</sup> March, 2006	11 <sup>th</sup> September, 2007

## India's total trade with FTA partners

(VALUES IN MILLION USD)

BLOCK	YEAR	EXPORT	IMPORT	TOTAL TRADE
APTA COUNTRIES	2012-13	26914.05	66618.58	93532.63
	2013-14	29778.81	64658.43	94437.25
	2014-15	29716.47	75319.81	105036.29
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	11899.90	38995.52	50895.42
GSTP COUNTRIES	2012-13	78039.06	140625.46	218664.52
	2013-14	82935.06	135926.39	218861.45
	2014-15	84206.96	134450.26	218657.22
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	32867.06	58385.95	91253.02
ASEAN COUNTRIES	2012-13	33008.31	42866.36	75874.67
	2013-14	33135.05	41279.29	74414.35
	2014-15	31812.86	44714.77	76527.63
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	11787.95	20953.49	32741.44
JAPAN	2012-13	6101.24	12412.29	18513.54
	2013-14	6814.64	9481.03	16295.67
	2014-15	5385.87	10131.36	15517.23
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	2597.79	4912.18	7509.97
KOREA	2012-13	4205.67	13105.12	17310.79
	2013-14	4209.52	12470.97	16680.49
	2014-15	4604.19	13529.11	18133.30
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	1767.62	6651.28	8418.91
MALAYSIA	2012-13	4444.10	9951.06	14395.15
	2013-14	4198.18	9230.18	13428.36
	2014-15	5816.65	11117.74	16934.39
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	2154.69	4675.53	6830.22
SINGAPORE	2012-13	13619.31	7486.38	21105.70
	2013-14	12511.19	6762.71	19273.90
	2014-15	9809.53	7124.47	16934.00
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	3425.72	3810.31	7236.02
AFGHANISTAN	2012-13	472.63	159.55	632.18
	2013-14	474.35	208.77	683.13
	2014-15	422.56	261.91	684.47
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	302.66	109.34	412.00
BHUTAN	2012-13	233.22	164.00	397.22
	2013-14	355.61	152.17	507.78
	2014-15	333.94	149.87	483.81
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	183.75	183.61	367.36
CHILE	2012-13	690.00	2992.31	3682.31
	2013-14	664.02	2508.04	3172.06
	2014-15	565.82	3080.63	3646.45
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	331.60	1111.82	1443.43
NEPAL	2012-13	3088.84	543.10	3631.94
	2013-14	3592.43	529.95	4122.37
	2014-15	4558.77	639.91	5198.68
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	1946.49	258.18	2204.67
SRILANKA	2012-13	3983.87	625.81	4609.68
	2013-14	4534.51	666.94	5201.45
	2014-15	6703.72	756.17	7459.89
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	2791.26	394.52	3185.78
MERCOSUR COUNTRIES	2012-13	6814.66	6057.54	12872.20
	2013-14	6414.12	5085.23	11499.35
	2014-15	6738.84	7501.63	14240.46
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	1964.77	3225.33	5190.10
SAARC COUNTRIES	2012-13	15110.80	2679.95	17790.75
	2013-14	17504.59	2473.07	19977.66
	2014-15	20480.14	2930.85	23411.00
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	8814.72	1499.39	10314.10
THAILAND	2012-13	3733.17	5352.61	9085.78

	2013-14	3703.39	5340.36	9043.75
	2014-15	3464.83	5865.88	9330.71
	2015-16(APR TO SEP)	1530.25	2927.19	4457.43

Source-DGCIS, Kolkata

NOTE: FIGURES FOR 2015-16(APR TO SEP) IS PROVISIONAL.

## Annexure 4

### FTAs/PTAs under Negotiation:

S. No.	Name of the Agreement	Status
1	India - EU BTIA (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom)	<p>Negotiations launched on 28th June 2007 in the areas of Goods, Services, Investment, Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures, Technical Barriers to Trade, Trade Facilitation and Customs Cooperation, Competition, IPR &amp; GIs. etc.</p> <p>Fifteen rounds of negotiations and a number of inter-sessional and Chief Negotiator level meetings have been held till date. A Ministerial review meeting between Hon'ble Commerce &amp; Industry Minister and EU's Trade Commissioner was held on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2013 at Brussels.</p> <p>After a period of lull, both sides began re-engagement from October, 2014 onwards.</p>
2	India – Sri Lanka CEPA	<p>FTA in goods implemented from March 2000.</p> <p>A JSG was set up in April, 2003 to widen the ambit of ISLFTA to go beyond Trade in Goods to include Services and to facilitate greater investment flows between the two countries. Based on the recommendation and conclusion of the JSG, negotiations for a CEPA were started in February, 2005.</p> <p>No discussion is currently taking place India-Sri Lanka CEPA</p>
3	India - Thailand CECA	<p>Early Harvest Scheme on 82 items implemented. So far 29<sup>th</sup> rounds of India-Thailand Trade Negotiation committee (ITTNC) meetings have been held. The 29<sup>th</sup> round was held in Bangkok in June 2015.</p>
4	India - Mauritius CECPA	<p>Ten rounds of negotiations on India-Mauritius CECPA have been held between the two sides so far. The last round of negotiation was held between India and Mauritius on 23–24 October, 2006. However, CECPA negotiations have been formally put on hold.</p>
5	India EFTA TEPA (Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland)	<p>The India-EFTA TEPA (Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement) was launched in January 2008 (then known as BTIA). The first round was held in New Delhi during 6-8 October, 2008. The Chapters covered are Trade in Goods, Services, Investment,, Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary</p>

		Measures (SPS), Technical Barriers to Trade(TBT), Trade Facilitation and Customs Cooperation, Competition, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Government Procurement (GP), Dispute Settlement(DS), Trade Defence(TD), Rules of origin(ROO), Sustainable Development (SD) and Legal & Horizontal etc. 13 rounds of negotiations have been held with the 13 <sup>th</sup> and final round being held on 25-29 <sup>th</sup> November, 2013. Legal vetting has been completed in most of the texts with only some residual work remaining. There are few pending issues on both sides such as TRIPS Plus and Data Adequacy/Data Security status.
6	India - New Zealand FTA/CECA	Ten Rounds of negotiation of CECA have been held so far. The 10 <sup>th</sup> Round was held in New Delhi on 17-18 February, 2015.
7	India – Israel FTA	Eight rounds of negotiations on India-Israel FTA have been held so far. The Eighth round was held in Israel from 24-26 November, 2013.
8	India - Singapore CECA	Second review of India-Singapore CECA was launched in May, 2010. During the visit of Minister of Commerce & Industry on 15-16 May, 2013 to Singapore, it was decided to constitute a Joint Working Group of Reserve Bank of India and Monetary Authority of Singapore to resolve the issue of Asset Maintenance Requirements in a time bound manner to conclude the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Review on the issue of Employee Provident Fund.
9	India - SACU PTA (South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Namibia)	Five rounds of negotiations have been held so far. 1 <sup>st</sup> Round of negotiation was held in Pretoria on October 5-6 <sup>th</sup> , 2007 and the 5 <sup>th</sup> round of negotiations held in October 2010 in New Delhi. During the 9 <sup>th</sup> Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) meeting held at Durban on 19 <sup>th</sup> March, 2015 under the co-chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs and South Africa's Foreign Minister, while discussing pending negotiations on finalization of INDIA-SACU PTA, the Indian side requested the South African side for assistance in holding the 6 <sup>th</sup> round of negotiations.
10	India - Mercosur PTA (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay)	The two issues currently under discussion on the India-Mercosur PTA are the expansion in coverage and inclusion of Venezuela in the PTA.
11	India – Chile PTA	With the objective of gaining optimal benefits and boosting bilateral trade between the two countries, the expansion of India-Chile PTA is being processed for Cabinet approval.
12	BIMSTEC FTA (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka,	20 meetings of the Trade Negotiation Committee (TNC) have taken place. 20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of BIMSTEC Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) was held on during 07-09,



	Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal)	September 2015 in Khon Kaen Province, Thailand.
13	India - Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Framework Agreement (Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and United Arab Emirates)	Two rounds of negotiations have been held so far in 2006 and 2008. The second round was held in September 9-10, 2008. No round could take place held in the last 7 years since GCC has deferred its negotiations with all countries and economic groups and is currently reviewing its negotiations with all countries and economic groups.
14	India – Canada FTA	Nine rounds of negotiation on India-Canada CEPA have been held so far. The Ninth round was held in March, 15.
15	India - Indonesia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)	Commencement of negotiation on Indonesia - India CECA was announced on 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2011 during the visit of Indonesian President to New Delhi. Negotiations are yet to commence. The first meeting pre-negotiation and Biennial Trade and Investment Forum (BTIF) took place in Jakarta on October 3-4, 2011. Negotiation has been kept in abeyance watching progress of RCEP.
16	India - Australia CECA	Nine rounds of negotiations have been held so far. The Ninth round of negotiations was held on 21-23 September, 2015 in New Delhi, India.
17.	India-Malaysia CECA (1 <sup>st</sup> Review)	1 <sup>st</sup> meeting of the India-Malaysia Joint Committee meeting to review implementation of the Agreement was held on 8 <sup>th</sup> December, 2014.
18	Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement among ASEAN + 6 FTA Partners (Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and New Zealand)	Based on the Declaration of the Leaders during the ASEAN Summit in November, 2012, negotiations for a comprehensive economic partnership between the 10 ASEAN member states and its 6 FTA partners commenced in May, 2013. Ten rounds of negotiations have been held so far. The 10 <sup>th</sup> round was held on 8-16, October 2015 in Busan, Korea. The negotiations cover a number of areas like trade in goods, services, investment, intellectual property, economic & technical cooperation, competition and legal & institutional issues.
19	India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) (1 <sup>st</sup> Review)	The ASEAN Secretariat has agreed to the 1 <sup>st</sup> review of India-ASEAN trade in Goods Agreement in the coming months. Dates would be finalized as per mutual consultations.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1210**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**INDO-ASIAN ECONOMIC AGREEMENT**

**1210(H). SHRI C.R. CHAUDHARY:**

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

- a) the details of the Indo-Asian Economic Partnership agreements made during the current year along with the number of such agreements made so far;
- b) the details of the benefits likely to accrue to the industries in the country including those in Rajasthan; and
- c) the details of the likely effects of the said agreement on the economic service sector in the country?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) India has not signed any Comprehensive Economic partnership agreement with any Asian country this year.
- (b) & (c) Does not arise.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1213**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**IMPORT OF ONIONS BY MMTC**

**1213. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:**

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

- whether the Metals and Minerals Trading Corporation of India (MMTC) has imported 1600 tons of onions from Egypt and China to meet the domestic demand and curb rising prices and if so, the details thereof indicating the rate at which onions were imported;
- whether onion prices in the country have dropped sharply and there is no taker for these onions and if so, the details thereof;
- whether MMTC has been compelled for sale of imported onions by making huge loss;
- if so, the total loss suffered by MMTC on import and sale of onions; and
- the corrective steps taken by MMTC to put in place a proper and robust mechanism in this regard?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (d) To meet the domestic demand and to curb the rising prices, MMTC on behalf of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation imported 1989 MT of onion of Chinese and Egyptian origin in two batches. A quantity of 1000 MT was imported at a price of USD 685 PMT and the balance quantity of 989 MT was imported at a price of USD 545 PMT. The imported onions arrived at JNPT port (Mumbai) between 1.10.2015 and 13.10.2015. Meanwhile, due to reasons such as arrival of Kharif onion in October, ongoing festivities and import of onions by private traders, no demand was forthcoming from the States or any Government agency for imported onions. This despite the fact that imported onion was offered by the Government at Rs.50/kg. at State capitals. As onion is highly perishable and susceptible to fast deterioration, it was decided, to allow MMTC to dispose of the onion through local auction. As per provisional assessment of accounts, the loss in transaction in imports

of onions has been approximately Rs.8.03 crores, which would be borne out of Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF).

(e) Imports of Onions were undertaken as a price stabilization measure. For perishable commodities like onions which have short shelf life, losses could happen in case there is no firm demand from the State Governments or Central Government Agencies and further such commodities are subject to market prices and have to be disposed at best price received in tender.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1214**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**TRADE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE OF BIMSTEC**

**1214. SHRI RAM CHARITRA NISHAD:**

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

- a) whether the trade negotiating committee of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multispectral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is likely to meet in near future after a gap of four years to revive the languishing proposal for a free trade agreement;
- b) if so, the details thereof;
- c) whether BIMSTEC has been an under performer as the same countries are also engaged under more vibrant groupings such as the SAARC, ASEAN and RCEP and if so, the details thereof; and
- d) the manner in which the group nations are considering to stress that BIMSTEC is different from all other groups and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) and (b): The Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) met in September, 2015. The last meeting of the TNC was held in February 2011. This September, 2015 meeting was called in the background of the Third BIMSTEC Summit held in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar in March, 2014, where the Leaders directed the BIMSTEC TNC to expedite its work.

(c) and (d): BIMSTEC is a regional Organization comprising the seven Member States in the Bay of Bengal region. The BIMSTEC region brings together 1.5 billion people- 22% of world population and a combined GDP of over US \$ 2.5 trillion. BIMSTEC constitutes a bridge between South and South-East Asia with five Members from South Asia namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka and two from South-East Asia namely Myanmar and Thailand. BIMSTEC has identified 14 priority areas where a member country takes lead, such as transport & communication, tourism, environment & disaster management, public health, people-to-people contacts and counter terrorism & transnational crime etc. A number of initiatives have been taken in these identified areas of cooperation by the member countries.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1222**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PACKAGING**

**1222. SHRI G. HARI:**

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

- a) whether the Government is considering to make Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) an institute of national importance;
- b) if so, whether the Government is considering to bring in innovations in packaging that can boost exports;
- c) if so, whether the Government has called upon the graduate students to form start up and innovate new packing designs; and
- d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) : Government regularly evaluates and takes steps to upgrade the administrative, academic and technical competence of institutions working in various fields including their status as Institute of National Importance on the basis of felt need of the stakeholders. While Indian Institute of Packaging (IIP) is considered to be a unique institution in the field of education, training and consultancy for packaging, no specific decision about its status as Institute of National Importance (I. N. I.) has been taken.
- (b) : Government has decided to involve IIP in contributing towards export promotion by formulating packaging standards for exportable commodities, upgradation of existing educational programmes in Packaging Technology and Management and also Research & Development in Packaging.
- (c) & (d): IIP conducts two years Post Graduate Diploma programme in Packaging. Some of the qualified students from this Institute have voluntarily formed start-ups and are involved in development of innovative new packing designs. Support to such start-ups are available under various programmes implemented by the respective Ministries and Agencies of the Government.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1235**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**DIAMOND BUSINESS**

**1235. SHRI VENKATESH BABU T.G.:**

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

- a) the estimated quantity and value of generation of diamond business in the country particularly from Surat and other neighbouring areas and the number of workers associated with the industry and employment generation therefrom;
- b) whether there is a huge drop in the production of all major diamond polishing units and large number of employees associated with this industry are rendered jobless and few of them have committed suicides and the industries are facing the threat of closure;
- c) if so, the details thereof;
- d) whether the Government has taken any steps to protect the industry and the employees associated with these industries; and
- e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (सीतारमण श्रीमती निर्मला)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) Port-wise data in respect of cut and polished diamond is at Annexure-I. As reported by Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), approximately 4.6 Million people are employed in the industry.
- (b) & (c) Due to the global economic slowdown, marginal decline has been noticed in the gem and jewellery exports during the year 2014-15 (US\$ 40.62 Billion) as compared to the previous year 2013-14 (US\$ 41.01 Billion). However, Government has taken a number of measures to boost the diamond industry and the same have been elaborated in the reply to part (d) and (e).
- (d) & (e) With a view to promote the diamond industry, Special Notified Zone (SNZ) for consignment import/export of rough diamonds has been established at Mumbai where rough diamond mining companies will directly bring their production. This will help in reduction of transaction cost of Indian diamantaires and also ensure steady supply of rough diamonds for the Indian diamond industry. Also, Government has taken a number of other steps such as providing financial assistance for participation in international fairs, organizing buyer-seller meets etc. under Market Development

Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) Schemes of the Department of Commerce to boost the diamond industry.

Annexure - I

**PORTWISE EXPORTS OF GEMS & JEWELLERY FROM INDIA DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS**

2014-15

Region	C & P Diamonds		Return Consignment		Total Net Exports		% Share in Total	C & P Diamonds		Return Consign
Region	Lakhs cts	US\$ Mill	Lakhs cts	US\$ Mill	Lakhs cts	US\$ Mill	US\$	Lakhs cts	US\$ Mill	Lakhs cts
Mumbai	342.12	22751.41	14.66	3356.31	327.46	19395.10	97.99	329.70	21697.42	18.93
Bangalore	0	3.30			0.00	3.30	0.02		3.22	
Delhi	0	6.85			0.00	6.85	0.03		16.64	
Surat	2.59	332.71	0.01	2.77	2.58	329.94	1.67	22.31	1833.57	
Kolkata	0.17	4.21			0.17	4.21	0.02	4.89	659.27	
Hyderabad	0.01	2.19			0.01	2.19	0.01	5.57	202.02	
Jaipur	0	27.84		7.62	0.00	20.22	0.10		30.60	
Chennai	0.14	1.15			0.14	1.15	0.01	0.03	1.60	
Vishakhapatnam	0.33	30.45			0.33	30.45	0.15	3.48	54.14	
TOTAL	345.36	23160.08	14.67	3366.70	330.69	19793.38	100.00	365.98	24498.48	18.93

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1241**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES IN JHARKHAND**

**1241. SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY**

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

- a) the total number of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) notified in the State of Jharkhand;
- b) the total area allocated for each SEZ and the activities proposed therein; and
- c) the status of each SEZ and the role of the Central Government in these SEZs?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (c): In the State of Jharkhand one Special Economic Zone (SEZ) namely M/s. Adityapur Industrial Area Development Authority at Adityapur, District Seraikela-Kharsawan, Jharkhand has been notified for setting up of a sector specific SEZ for Automobiles and Components over an area of 36.4218 hectares. The SEZ had a Letter of Approval (LoA) valid upto 13.06.2015. However, since no development activity had been undertaken by the developer, Government has rejected the request of the developer for extension of validity of approval beyond 13.06.2015.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1258**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**IMPORT OF OLD ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS**

**1258(H). SHRI GANESH SINGH:**  
**SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:**

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

- whether the Government has issued licences for import of old electronic products into the country;
- if so, the details thereof along with the total quantum of imports of such products made during the last three years and the current year; and
- whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the effect of said imports on the domestic electronic industry and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): Import of old/second-hand electronic products is 'restricted' under India's Foreign Trade Policy. These can be imported only after obtaining licenses from the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Department of Commerce. Data for import of old /second-hand products/goods is not maintained separately. The following table gives the details of import licenses issued by DGFT for old/second-hand electronic products and the total import of electronic products for the last three years and the current year.

1	2	3
Year	CIF value of import license granted for import of old electronic products (Rs. in crore)	Total import of electronic products (Rs. in crore)
2012-13	576.75	1,82,605.46
2013-14	166.75	2,01,090.74
2014-15	401.59	2,29,615.17

April-Sept. 2015	0	1,32,976.76
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**(Col. 2 is a subset of Col. 3)**

(b) No, madam.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1260**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**EXPORT OF FOOD PRODUCTS**

**1260(H). SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA:**

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

- a) the names of the countries where India is exporting food products;
- b) the details of revenue from exports of these food products during the last three years and the current year; and
- c) the names of the countries with which agreements for exporting food products have been made during the last two years?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) India's food products are exported to over 160 countries of the world like USA, Vietnam, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Malayasia, Iran, China, Egypt & Japan etc. and trade blocs like EU, ASEAN & MERCOSUR etc.
- (b) The revenue/value of exports of foods products during the last three years and current year is enclosed at Annex-I.
- (c) The Government is actively engaging in regional and bilateral negotiations with trading countries/blocks to diversify and expand its market for overall export which includes food products. As of now, Govt. has already signed various Bilateral/Regional/Multilateral Trade Agreements and these are already in force. Further, Govt. is currently negotiating several Trade Agreements, including review/expansion of some of the existing Trade Agreements.

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S.No.	Commodity	2012-2013		2013-2014		2014-2015		2015-2016 (April - October) Provisional	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	MARINE PRODUCTS	965.10	3464.08	1000.82	5016.46	1073.97	5510.49	581.52	2899.85
2	BUFFALO MEAT	1076.10	3201.14	1365.64	4350.23	1475.54	4781.18	716.11	2257.02
3	RICE -BASMOTI	3459.83	3564.04	3754.10	4864.69	3698.93	4516.28	2388.82	2172.52
4	RICE(OTHER THAN BASMOTI)	6687.85	2651.97	7148.47	2925.05	8278.23	3336.84	3824.16	1398.39
5	SPICES	932.59	2786.12	896.57	2497.22	926.02	2430.35	491.29	1472.71
6	CASHEW	104.09	746.97	120.74	842.30	134.57	909.26	59.08	452.58
7	SUGAR	2793.78	1574.62	2477.64	1177.03	1955.19	871.41	1639.48	611.81
8	OTHER CEREALS	5441.31	1505.16	4637.54	1204.11	3514.35	869.11	645.48	162.33
9	WHEAT	6514.82	1934.24	5572.03	1569.03	2924.05	828.75	415.92	102.50
10	COFFEE	254.02	866.13	253.90	798.80	221.40	814.02	147.70	460.25
11	FRESH VEGETABLES	2343.88	627.08	2291.75	886.12	2061.00	763.24	923.63	388.05
12	GROUNDNUT	535.64	747.39	509.75	525.67	708.39	760.37	219.74	278.07
13	TEA	268.80	865.97	249.91	798.76	215.41	681.79	137.70	414.98
14	PROCESSED FRUITS AND JUICES		473.42		547.12		592.26		330.38
15	FRESH FRUITS	534.62	496.06	525.22	608.96	486.94	516.26	231.06	244.56
16	CEREAL PREPARATIONS	292.69	411.79	319.55	471.31	305.43	496.41	188.15	298.47
17	MISC PROCESSED ITEMS		340.62		418.03		453.66		268.07
18	ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES		355.19		401.51		369.59		184.14
19	DAIRY PRODUCTS		427.53		727.52		355.83		161.67
20	PROCESSED VEGETABLES		202.66		213.04		281.75		145.82
21	PULSES	202.67	236.39	345.55	290.27	222.14	199.86	130.44	122.51
22	OTHER OIL SEEDS	87.59	76.28	194.46	155.17	247.54	185.03	116.89	86.13
23	MILLED PRODUCTS	273.55	111.07	419.26	166.15	419.86	168.76	259.99	101.10
24	COCOA PRODUCTS	19.08	54.03	16.23	93.96	20.88	138.87	19.55	108.34
25	SHEEP/GOAT MEAT	15.29	78.35	22.61	115.36	23.61	135.71	13.92	81.15
26	POULTRY PRODUCTS		91.22		93.02		106.38		71.37
27	VEGETABLE OILS	36.09	85.92	23.01	53.38	42.05	94.56	15.23	46.35
28	FRUITS / VEGETABLE SEEDS	17.17	63.70	19.34	68.80	12.50	69.96	3.61	42.48
29	PROCESSED MEAT	0.80	1.73	0.51	1.29	0.41	2.29	0.28	0.95
30	OTHER MEAT	0.19	0.43	0.27	0.55	0.26	0.44	0.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>		<b>28041.30</b>		<b>31880.91</b>		<b>31240.71</b>		<b>15364.55</b>

Data Source: DGCIS, Kolkata

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1270  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015

IMPORT OF TYRES/RADIAL TYRES

1270. SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI)

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

- the details of tyre/radial tyres including those of trucks and buses imported into the country during the last three years and the current year, year and country-wise;
- whether there is a rise in the imports of cheap tyres/radial tyres into the country particularly from China;
- if so, whether the Tyre Industry has urged the Government to take measures to curb the cheap imports of radial tyres into the country;
- if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- the steps taken by the Government to protect the domestic tyre industry?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) and (b) The details of tyre/radial tyres including those of trucks and buses imported into the country during the last three years and the current year and country-wise are at **Annex: I and II**, which includes China related figures separately.
- (c) to (e): Automotive Tyre Manufacturers Association [ATMA] has requested putting import of Truck/Bus Radial Tyres in the restricted list, prohibiting import of tyres without BIS marking, commencing investigation on dumping of tyres from China and increasing customs duty on tyres.

The import of tyres is subject to Pneumatic Tyres and Tubes for Automotive Vehicles (Quality Control) Order, 2009 and BIS standards. The import of retreaded tyres is also 'restricted' (can only be imported against a license) unless it fulfills Minimum Import Price (MIP) criterion. Further, the Directorate General of Anti-Dumping and Allied Duties (DGAD) is examining petitions for initiation of anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duty investigations on imports of Bus and Truck Radial Tyres from China. Moreover, Customs field formations have



been instructed to enforce Pneumatic Tyres & Tubes for Automotive Vehicles [Quality Control] Order, 2009 strictly and to restrict import of tyres without BIS marking.

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**Annex I**

**INDIA'S IMPORT OF TYRES**

<b>(VALUES IN US \$ Million)</b>					
ITC (HS)	ITEM DESCRIPTION	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16(APR TO SEP)
4011	NEW PNEUMATIC TYRES, OF RUBBER	468	404.85	424.69	241.01
4012	RETREADED OR USED PNEUMATIC TYRES OF RUBBER, SOLID OR CUSHION TYRES, TYRE TREADS AND TYRE FLAPS, OF RUBBER	9.81	10.07	10.24	5.25
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>477.42</b>	<b>414.93</b>	<b>434.93</b>	<b>246.27</b>

**IMPORT OF TYRES FROM CHINA**

<b>(VALUES IN US \$ Million)</b>					
ITC (HS)	ITEM DESCRIPTION	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16(APR TO SEP)
4011	NEW PNEUMATIC TYRES, OF RUBBER	85.99	101.27	157.65	119.97
4012	RETREADED OR USED PNEUMATIC TYRES OF RUBBER, SOLID OR CUSHION TYRES, TYRE TREADS AND TYRE FLAPS, OF RUBBER	2.78	2.18	1.47	1.6
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>88.77</b>	<b>103.45</b>	<b>159.12</b>	<b>121.56</b>

**Annex II**

**COUNTRY-WISE IMPORT OF TYRES**

**(VALUES IN US \$)**

COUNTRY	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16(APR TO SEP)
AUSTRALIA	178954	277812	285432	209694
AUSTRIA	75921	99776	128243	69776
BAHARAIN IS	0	2200	733	0
BANGLADESH PR	134342	113179	638	0
BELARUS	251680	96011	0	0

BELGIUM	111407	24939	5263	18642
BRAZIL	8633777	5779426	9110689	7016990
CANADA	332908	288352	531568	452624
CHILE	0	0	11559	0
CHINA P RP	88770284	103451565	159120382	121563795
COLOMBIA	0	0	5316	0
COSTA RICA	1790	0	1444	0
CZECH REPUBLIC	531370	303852	680796	483603
DENMARK	108977	60041	118938	37603
EGYPT A RP	4446	548921	1207433	489305
ESTONIA	1911	0	0	0
FINLAND	12086	0	12790	6515
FRANCE	39863229	8044579	6114084	3715097
GERMANY	11759238	16805942	15868902	9959592
GREECE	337	0	38123	0
HONG KONG	5633079	6603527	3411499	693653
HUNGARY	0	121230	7139	2441
INDONESIA	5976967	3198713	7282778	4001086
IRAN	73	0	0	0
IRELAND	6243	0	4752	1302
ISRAEL	18256	7439	10340	5648
ITALY	272651	232718	267767	436669
JAPAN	70425388	60164071	60996133	24173388
KENYA	0	0	0	220
KOREA DP RP	67040	24087	163	0
KOREA RP	34158134	24924180	14828985	4589342
LATVIA	0	7180	0	0
LITHUANIA	120011	0	0	0
LUXEMBOURG	0	1735	152982	8343
MALAYSIA	558208	2556244	1823967	443441
MALDIVES	0	0	0	192
MEXICO	15885	7259	28325	46106
NETHERLAND	1899025	795128	1028795	709315
NETHERLANDANTIL	0	0	16595	0
NIGERIA	0	101	0	0
NORWAY	0	0	0	1908
OMAN	0	0	1053	4184
PAKISTAN IR	12058	0	534	0
PHILIPPINES	5928149	7223272	7170753	239578
POLAND	13168	340570	439111	357724
PORTUGAL	398971	335048	584675	138672
QATAR	0	0	0	1215
ROMANIA	6273265	6183981	1287391	616548
RUSSIA	48913	14511	8232	9815
SAUDI ARAB	3662	14679	623	374
SERBIA	0	0	0	8438
SINGAPORE	841676	930857	1046920	705466

SLOVAK REP	955087	208375	2052	125075
SLOVENIA	72336	52418	20485	10038
SOUTH AFRICA	2306911	1182068	687793	98390
SPAIN	63719820	54400497	26852783	7493154
SRI LANKA DSR	6536083	6824242	8372822	3010709
SWEDEN	67479	120257	244616	149965
SWITZERLAND	41952	11290	8119	1590
TAIWAN	26616717	8689237	2550614	1056622
TANZANIA REP	0	517	0	0
THAILAND	68117140	54377130	58078050	30047673
TUNISIA	0	3896	624	2191
TURKEY	1064059	857968	908348	652696
U ARAB EMTS	1029859	1416720	1272100	208244
U K	5126474	10531342	16232691	7161864
U S A	10744160	21068462	13016085	7807132
UKRAINE	3485707	1944279	2219064	69729
UNSPECIFIED	8823	1424	1636	55030
VIETNAM SOC REP	4085640	3653440	10824078	7099711
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>477421726</b>	<b>414926687</b>	<b>434933805</b>	<b>246268117</b>

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1271**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**BOOSTING EXPORTS FROM SEZs**

**1271. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:**  
**DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:**  
**SHRI SATAV RAJEEV:**  
**SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:**  
**SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:**  
**DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:**  
**SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:**

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

- whether the goods manufactured in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) when sold in the domestic market are levied an import duty which places them at a disadvantage compared with goods imported through free trade agreements;
- if so, whether this has affected SEZs adversely both domestically and in its exports and if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government has proposed to bring down the tariffs and minimum alternative tax levied on SEZs units that sell goods in the domestic market;
- if so, the details and the present status thereof; and
- the other steps taken or being taken by the Government to boost exports from SEZs?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) and (b): As per Section 30 of the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005, any goods removed from a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) to the Domestic Tariff Area shall be chargeable to duties of customs including anti-dumping, countervailing and safeguard duties under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, where applicable, as leviable on such goods when imported.

(c) and (d): No Madam.

(e): In order to boost exports from SEZs Government periodically reviews the policy and operational framework of SEZs and takes necessary measures so as to facilitate speedy and effective implementation of SEZs. The Government has notified SEZ Rules (Amendment), 2015 vide G.S.R. 5(E) dated 02.01.2015 allowing dual utilization of facilities in Non-Processing Area (NPA) of SEZs by both SEZ and

non-SEZ entities. Besides, timelines for disposal of various approvals of Developers and Units have been introduced in all SEZ Zones.

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1307  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015

EARNINGS THROUGH MEAT EXPORTS

1307(H). SHRI KESHAV PRASAD MAURYA:  
SHRI BHARAT SINGH:  
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:  
DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA:

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

- the total revenue earnings/foreign exchange earnings by the Government through meat exports during the last three years and the current year, year and country-wise;
- whether any target has been fixed by the Government for export of beef/meat including animal meat for the current financial year and if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government proposes to impose a ban on the export of beef/animal meat and if so, the details thereof and the proposals, if any, received by the Government in this regard along with the action taken thereon;
- whether the Government provides subsidy to the exporters of beef and animal meat and if so, the details of the subsidy given to beef and animal meat exporters during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and
- whether the Government has received any proposal regarding withdrawal of subsidy being given to beef exporters and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

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- (a) The total revenue earnings/foreign exchange earnings by the Government through meat exports during the last three years and the current year, year and country-wise is given below:

Qty. in MT/ Value in US\$ Million

COUNTRY	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16(Apr-Oct)*	
	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE	QTY	VALUE
VIETNAM	302558	944.37	524490	1796.32	633945	2154.39	279177.62	943.33
EGYPT	71295	230.87	107826	338.22	128082	422.34	83494.00	265.86
MALAYSIA	115359	357.44	121713	388.67	130877	422.94	78697.60	242.26
SAUDI ARABIA	73850	238.94	80433	280.47	80845	301.51	38396.79	143.41

<b>UAE</b>	47040	160.04	53568	189.20	52405	198.22	28759.54	112.92
<b>Others</b>	482278	1349.99	500997	1474.71	473667	1420.23	221865.05	631.82
<b>Total</b>	<b>1092380</b>	<b>3281.65</b>	<b>1389027</b>	<b>4467.58</b>	<b>1499821</b>	<b>4919.62</b>	<b>730390.60</b>	<b>2339.60</b>

Source: DGCI&S

\*Provisional

- (b) As per the Foreign Trade Policy, the export of beef (meat and edible offal of cows, oxen and calf) is prohibited, hence question does not arise. Government has not fixed any target for export of meat of other animals in the current financial year.
- (c) As per the Foreign Trade Policy, export of beef (meat and edible offal of cows, oxen and calf) is prohibited. As regards ban on export of meat, presently there is no such move to ban the export.
- (d) Financial Assistance is provided only for export of meat and meat products (and not beef exports) under the Agriculture Export Promotion Plan Scheme of APEDA. Financial assistance provided to the meat exporters during the last three years is given below. Finance assistance for the current year is not available and is not maintained State/UT-wise.

Name of the components	Rs. in lacs		
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Development of Infrastructure (Specialized Transport Vehicle for meat products)	5.00	0.00	0.00
Quality & Quality Control and development of Quality standards **	0.00	6.48	26.40
Transport Assistance for meat products	1886.00	1461.00	<b>371.16*</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1891.00</b>	<b>1467.48</b>	<b>397.56</b>

\* The transport assistance for the carry over cases of 2013-14 as transport assistance for buffalo meat export (which was earlier allowed only to West Africa) has been discontinued w.e.f. 1.1.2014.

\*\*Funds allotted for R&D work and Standards formulation to National Research Centres (NRC) in Guwahati and Hyderabad in 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively.

Source: APEDA

- (e) Does not arise.

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1313  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015

PRICE STABILISATION FUND FOR RUBBER

1313. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

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

- whether the Government is planning to utilise the price stabilisation fund to rescue rubber farmers in the country;
- if so, the details thereof along with the funds provided for rubber plantation/production during the last five years;
- whether the State Government of Kerala has requested the Government for price stabilisation fund to support rubber farmers; and
- if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (सीतारमण श्रीमती निर्मला)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (b): Price Stabilization Scheme was implemented by the Central Government from the year 2003 to 2013 with a view to protect the farmers of plantation crops including rubber, from losses on account of price fluctuations with the support from the Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF). Funds spent for implementation of various plan schemes for the rubber plantation sector during the last five years are as under:

Year	Funds spent under plan scheme - Rubber Board (Rs. in crore)
2010-11	140.97
2011-12	176.34
2012-13	158.09
2013-14	161.03
2014-15	162.23



The scheme was reviewed and in light of the experience of implementing the Scheme, a market-linked Revenue Insurance Scheme for Plantation Crops (RISPC) has been devised for protecting the farmers of plantation crops, including rubber plantations, against losses arising from both fluctuations in yield as well as prices.

(c) to (d): The State Government of Kerala has suggested a Price Support Scheme for rubber crops in the interest of rubber cultivators in Kerala. The Revenue Insurance Scheme for Plantation Crops (RISPC) includes provisions to stabilize incomes of rubber farmers through appropriate insurance cover against price and production uncertainties.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1317**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**COMMODITY BOARDS**

**1317(H). SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:**

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

- a) the total number and details of Commodity Boards under the Department of Commerce along with their structure;
- b) the details of the boards wherein appointments of officers have been made; and
- c) the details of the boards wherein appointments of officers have not been made along with the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

**(a):** There are five Commodity Boards viz., Tea Board, Coffee Board, Rubber Board, Spices Board and Tobacco Board which are statutory autonomous bodies under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce. Each of the Commodity Board is headed by a Chairman and consists of a specific number of members drawn from various groups of growers, producers, traders including exporters & dealers, industry, labour and consumer interests, the state governments of the region and the relevant stakeholders. Composition of the Commodity Boards is given at Annexure-I.

**(b) & (c):** Appointment of officers in the Commodity Boards is an ongoing process and is made as and when vacancy arises. Present position regarding the officers appointed in various positions upto the level of Director is placed at Annexure-II.

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## Statement showing Composition of the Boards

Members drawn from Groups	Tea Board	Coffee Board	Rubber Board	Spices Board	Tobacco Board
Chairman	1	1	1	1	1
Members of Parliament	3	3	3	3	3
State Governments	6	6	3	3	2
Central Government	N.A.	N.A.	3	3	8
Manufacturers, Exporters, dealers, traders, etc.	4	4	2	10	4
Small Growers	N.A.	7	7	7	6
Large Growers and owners of estates & gardens	8	3	3	N.A.	N.A.
Labour interests	5	4	4	1	N.A.
Others (consumers, Research Institutes, etc.)	4	5	3	4	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>26</b>

N. A. – Not Applicable

**Statement showing present position regarding the officers appointed in various positions of Commodity Boards under the Department of Commerce (upto the level of Director)**

<b>Board</b>	<b>Sanctioned strength</b>	<b>Present position</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>	<b>Reasons, if post vacant</b>
Tea Board	08	03	05	Appointment of officers is an ongoing process and is made as and when vacancy arises. Additional or temporary charge is given to officers, if need arises, to discharge the functions of the vacant positions.
Coffee Board	04	03	01	
Rubber Board	08	05	03	
Spices Board	06	05	01	
Tobacco Board	02	0	02	

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1319**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SMALL TEA GROWERS**

**1319. SHRI MOHD. SALIM:**  
**SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:**

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

- a) whether small tea growers are facing distress over pricing woes;
- b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to help small tea growers along with the financial assistance provided to them during each of the last three years and the current year;
- c) whether any cases of suicides in closed tea gardens of Darjeeling and Doars of West Bengal have come to the notice of the Government during the said period; and
- d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in each case?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): Government is aware of the contribution made by small tea growers to production of tea and concerns over the prices received by them from sale of tea leaves. The Tea Board has notified a price sharing formula for ensuring equitable sharing of sale proceeds between factories and small tea growers. District Level Price Monitoring Committees have been formed in the tea growing areas to monitor the green leaf price. The Tea (Marketing) Control Order, 2003 has been amended to ensure transparency in prices paid by tea manufacturers to the small growers by referencing them to the average auction prices of tea in the region. The growers are also encouraged to set up their own tea factories either individually or collectively.

The Tea Development and Promotion Scheme implemented by the Tea Board during the XII Plan has a separate component for small growers' development. The Scheme includes outlays inter alia for promoting small tea growers and addressing their special needs, particularly in the area of improving production and productivity through new planting; establishing processing factories with special focus on enhancement of quality; organization of primary producer societies/Self Help Groups; implementation of the price sharing formula notified under Tea Marketing Control Order, 2003 and other measures aimed at safeguarding the quality of tea. A separate Small Grower Development Directorate with adequate

technical man power has been created to take care of the developmental needs of the small sector.

Financial assistance extended to the small tea growers in the last three years of the XII plan and the current year is given below:

<b>Financial assistance extended to the Small Tea Growers</b>		
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Amount in `Crore</b>
1	2012-13	18.32
2	2013-14	19.65
3	2014-15	21.03
4	2015-16(Upto October)	2.57
	<b>Total</b>	<b>61.57</b>

(c) & (d): The Government has not received any report regarding suicides in closed tea gardens including Darjeeling and Doars of West Bengal.

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1328  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015

LAND ACQUIRED FOR SETTING UP OF SEZs

1328(H). SHRI HARINARAYAN RAJBHAR:  
DR. RAVINDRA BABU:  
SHRI LAXMAN GILUWA:  
SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

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

- the total area of land acquired to set up Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in the country during the last five years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- the total area of land utilised for the purpose during the said period, State/UTwise including the land unutilised along with the reasons therefor;
- whether the Government proposes to return the unutilised land to farmers and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- the details of the target fixed for employment generation and investments in SEZs during the period along with achievements thereof and the exports made by SEZs including the foreign exchange earned therefrom State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (c): Land is a State subject. Land for Special Economic Zones (SEZs) is procured as per the policy and procedures of the respective State Governments. The Central Government does not allot any land for SEZs. The Board of Approval for SEZs only considers those proposals, which have been duly recommended by the State Government. A statement showing the State-wise notified land area, area utilized and area lying vacant in respect of 58 SEZs notified during the last five years and the current year is at **Annexure-I**.

(d): No employment generation and investments target is fixed for SEZs. States/UTs-wise exports, employment and investment made from SEZs during the last four years and current financial year is at **Annexure-II**.

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**Annexure-I to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1328 for 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2015**

<b>State-wise notified land area, area utilized and area lying vacant in respect of 58 SEZs notified during the last five years and the current year (Upto 30.11.2015)</b>				
<b>(Area In hectares)</b>				
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>States</b>	<b>Total Area Notified</b>	<b>Total Area Utilized</b>	<b>Area lying Vacant</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	2048.29	4.13	2044.15
2	Chhattisgarh	101.28	22.04	79.24
3	Gujarat	324.60	69.02	255.58
4	Haryana	79.05	0	79.05
5	Karnataka	328.13	88.42	239.72
6	Kerala	250.83	78.53	172.30
7	Madhya Pradesh	215	0	215
8	Maharashtra	571.99	35.86	536.13
9	Manipur	10.85	0	10.85
10	Nagaland	290	0	290
11	Odisha	106.26	20.44	86
12	Rajasthan	77.17	0	77.17
13	Tamil Nadu	295.51	0	295.51
14	Telangana	30.34	9.13	21.21
15	Uttar Pradesh	113.08	34.67	78.41
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4842.38</b>	<b>362.25</b>	<b>4480.13</b>



**Annexure-II to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1328 for 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2015**

<b>State/UT-wise exports made from SEZs during the last four years and the current year</b>						
		<b>Exports (Rs. in Crore)</b>				
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>States/UTs</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16 (as on 30.9.2015)</b>
1	Gujarat	182414.33	226937.74	225042	179791.75	72575.74
2	Karnataka	22006.81	39363.94	51372.88	55197.83	26786.31
3	Tamil Nadu	50152.39	67618	71417	68103.63	34052.76
4	Maharashtra	24198.83	42962.25	56399.23	62535.90	31625.91
5	Kerala	31373.3	33824.47	8003.64	6540.2	3239.98
6	Andhra Pradesh	18163.8	27687.71	33291.07	7887.61	3847.1
7	Telangana	0	0	0	37108	24032.69
8	Uttar Pradesh	13637.38	12591.49	16282.42	16516.77	8635.67
9	West Bengal	14870.7	15050.7	16204.27	9872.79	4339.36
10	Haryana	3442.95	4980.75	8740.43	11139.50	7064.64
11	Madhya Pradesh	1637.12	1937.16	2984.23	4009.46	2403.09
12	Rajasthan	1315.69	1498.42	2036.59	2091.34	1125.61
13	Chandigarh	1103.25	1339.93	1778.15	2084.24	1208.11
14	Chhattisgarh	0	9.56	1.84	3.19	0
15	Odisha	158.27	217.21	386.09	596.66	363.41
16	Punjab	2.91	139.6	136.72	290.79	116.74
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>364478</b>	<b>476159</b>	<b>494077</b>	<b>463770</b>	<b>221417</b>

<b>State/UT-wise employment generated from SEZs during the last four years and the current year</b>						
		<b>Employment* (In Persons)</b>				
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>States/UTs</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16 (as on 30.9.2015)</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	117266	144346	157280	47506	58335
2	Chandigarh	7620	6140	5927	7297	7497
3	Chhattisgarh	0	119	119	41	67
4	Goa	28	28	28	28	28
5	Gujarat	42097	51190	75586	63475	66114
6	Haryana	29220	38497	50208	55256	79842
7	Karnataka	85055	141366	193686	237138	237138
8	Kerala	23799	25701	32311	49652	49652
9	Madhya Pradesh	12313	12429	10308	10828	11306
10	Maharashtra	194469	271134	339919	360543	361152
11	Odisha	1787	1715	1577	2347	5920
12	Punjab	299	369	1299	1993	2058
13	Rajasthan	11028	13163	14574	16321	17246
14	Tamil Nadu	219989	237950	268405	287275	309873
15	Telangana	0	0	0	154784	170029
16	Uttar Pradesh	63637	75101	83970	96591	105862
17	West Bengal	36309	55656	48112	51241	62407
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>844916</b>	<b>1074904</b>	<b>1283309</b>	<b>1442316</b>	<b>1544526</b>

\* Calculated on cumulative basis.

<b>State/UT-wise investment made in SEZs during the last four years and the current year</b>						
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>States/UTs</b>	<b>Investment * (Rs. in Crore)</b>				
		<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16 (as on 30.9.2015)</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	17941	25425	31275	20149.47	23163.61
2	Chandigarh	229	213	228	260.10	267.79
3	Chhattisgarh	0	617	218	864.20	960.80
4	Goa	297	297	297	296.59	296.59
5	Gujarat	91520	98529	103600	122702.47	130466.78
6	Haryana	6166	6426	7022	7331.37	7550.49
7	Karnataka	9073	11910	29810	37966.89	37966.79
8	Kerala	5557	5536	6158	6003.13	6113.13
9	Madhya Pradesh	2821	3119	3884	3980.11	3982.56
10	Maharashtra	21919	32939	39898	47997.39	45937.85
11	Odisha	6537	3118	21978	21980.74	23751.7
12	Punjab	529	551	560	672.53	670.70
13	Rajasthan	762	1105	1115	1216.46	1286.24
14	Tamil Nadu	27485	33871	37168	41487.36	47395.19
15	Telangana	0	0	0	12456.66	16793.32
16	Uttar Pradesh	8426	10012	10664	10777.68	12167.44
17	Uttarakhand	23	23	0	0	0
18	West Bengal	2590	3026	2788	2651.31	4341.48
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>201875</b>	<b>236717</b>	<b>296663</b>	<b>338794</b>

\* Calculated on cumulative basis.

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1334  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015

AGRICULTURAL TRADE

1334(H). SHRI LAXMI NARAYAN YADAV:  
SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:

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

- a) whether the India has merely 1.55 per cent share in the world agricultural trade;
- b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- c) whether the Government has taken steps to enhance its share in the world agricultural trade; and
- d) if so, the details thereof along with the progress made so far in this regard?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a & b) As per World Trade Organization (WTO) International Trade Statistics 2015 (based on trade in 2014), India's share in world exports of agricultural products was 2.5%. India ranks 7<sup>th</sup> among the leading exporters of agricultural products. Keeping in view the fact that India has a large domestic consumption base for agricultural products, India's share in the world agriculture trade cannot be termed as insignificant.
- (c & d) Encouraging exports of agricultural products is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage exports of agro products through measures and incentives under Plan schemes of the Commodity Boards and Export Promotion Councils. Besides these measures, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI) and Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme (MEIS) etc. to provide assistance to encourage exports.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1354**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**EXPORT OF FLOWERS**

**1354. SHRI B.S. YEDIYURAPPA:**

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

- whether India's export of flowers has decreased as compared to previous year and if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government has made any study to find out the factors responsible for the decline in export of flowers;
- if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof; and
- the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the export of flowers?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) Details of India's exports of floriculture products, during the past three years and the current year are as under:

Year	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (Apr-Oct)	2014-15 (Apr-Oct)
Value (In Rs. crores)	423.45	455.90	460.80	278.82	268.84

As indicated above, exports of floriculture products from India has increased steadily over the years. Even during the current year, the exports during the period April – October are higher as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year.

- (b&c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (d) Encouraging exports of agricultural products, including flowers, is a continuous process. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial assistance to

exporters of horticulture produce, including flowers, through various components of its Plan Scheme viz. Infrastructure Development, Market Promotion, Quality Development and Transport Assistance. Besides these measures, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI) and Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme (MEIS) etc. to provide assistance to encourage exports.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1366**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**PURCHASE OF TOBACCO BY STC**

**1366. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY:**

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

- a) whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) has not purchased tobacco from the farmers of Andhra Pradesh for the past eight months;
- b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- c) whether the minimum support price for tobacco is very low and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- d) the steps taken by the Government to persuade STC to purchase tobacco from the farmers?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार )  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a)&(b) Yes, Madam. STC has not purchased tobacco from the farmers of Andhra Pradesh for the past eight months, as no directive was issued by the Government for the same.
- (c) There is no Minimum Support Price declared by Government of India for tobacco since 2008-09.
- (d) No decision was taken for actual procurement of tobacco by the Government. Instead, a decision was taken to compensate the registered growers of Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco in the State of Andhra Pradesh for identified low grade varieties.

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1372  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015

DEVELOPMENT OF TEA INDUSTRY

1372. SHRI RAMESWAR TELI:  
SHRI JANAK RAM:

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

- whether the Government has any plan for development of Tea Industry in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government has any proposal to set up a Tea Auction Centre at Dibrugarh in Assam and if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- whether the Government has held any meeting with the stakeholders of the Tea Industry especially with those pertaining to the tea auction segment and the small tea growers; and
- if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): Having regard to the need to ensure overall development of the Tea industry in the country, Government has approved Tea Development and Promotion Scheme for implementation during the XII plan period with financial outlay of Rs.1425 Crore. The Scheme has various components namely Plantation Development, Quality Up-gradation and Product Diversification including Orthodox Production, Market Promotion – Domestic and International, Research and Development, Human Resource Development, Development of Small Growers, and National Programme for Tea Regulation.

(b): There is no proposal, at present, to set up Tea Auction Center at Dibrugarh in Assam.

(c) & (d) : A consultation with stakeholders of tea sector including representatives of small tea growers, large tea estates, buyers, dealers, auctioneers of tea, etc. was held at Guwahati on 13.10.2014. Further meetings were held in Kolkata on 17.7.2015 and 26.11.2015 to discuss inter alia, issues relating to mandatory sale of tea through public auction and changes needed in the procedures and norms governing tea auctions. Following the consultations, the Tea Marketing Control Order, 2003 has been amended to provide a minimum quantum of mandatory sale of manufactured teas through public auctions. The rules for Pan India auction system have also been prepared in light of the feedback received during the consultations.

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