

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2071**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**BAN ON ONION EXPORTS**

2071. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:

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

- (a) whether the Government has banned onion exports and imposed stock limits for a certain period of time due to the shortage of onions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any long term initiative has been planned by the Government to address the problem of onion shortage; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b):** Yes Sir. The Government had prohibited export of all varieties of onions from 29.09.2019 vide Notification No. 21/2015-2020. Subsequently, the Government had allowed export of Bangalore Rose Onion upto a quantity of 9,000 MT over the period from 28.10.2019 to 30.11.2019 vide Notification No. 27/2015-2020 as well as export of Krishnapuram Onion upto a quantity of 10,000 MT during the period from 06.02.2020 to 31.03.2020 vide Notification No. 46/2015-2020. However, the Government has allowed export of all varieties of Onions "free" without any conditions with effect from 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 vide Notification No. 49/2015-20 dated 02.03.2020 and the Notification No. 46/2015-2020 related to export of Krishnapuram Onions stands withdrawn with effect from 15.03.2020. At the same time, the Government has initially imposed stock-limits for storing onions upto 50 MT for Wholesaler and 10 MT for Retailer of all States/ UTs vide Notification S.O. 3540(E) dated 29.09.2019, which has now been removed vide Notification S.O. 9017(E) dated 27.02.2020 in view of moderation in onion prices as well as estimated bumper rabi crop harvests indicating improved arrivals and availability.

**(c) & (d):** The Government, inter alia, builds buffer stock of onions under Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) Scheme through procurement during peak season so as to make price stabilizing market interventions during lean seasons. The procurement of Rabi onion under PSF for 2019-20 is 57.23 Thousand MT. Moreover, in order to address the onion shortage situation, a Crop Weather Watch Group consisting of members from Indian Meteorological Department, Central Water Commission, Department of Consumer Affairs, Department of Fertilizer, Department of Food & Public Distribution and Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare monitors the sowing, growth of onion crop and harvesting time of the crop through meetings and video conferences with the States. The assistance @ 50% of the cost (Rs. 1.75 lakh/unit) is also provided to farmers for construction of the low cost onion storage (25MT capacity) as per the guidelines of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2081**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**IMPORT OF PALM OIL**

2081. SHRI A.K.P. CHINRAJ:  
SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:

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

- (a) whether India is the world's biggest importer of edible oils, i.e., palmolein or palm oil, particularly importing from Malaysia;
- (b) whether the Government of Malaysia has recently curbed inbound shipments of palm oil to India;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the reasons for taking such a serious decision by the Government of Malaysia and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) the details of the total palm oil imports from Malaysia in each of the last three years;
- (f) whether the Government is making any alternative arrangements to import palm oil from other countries to avoid scarcity and to prevent price rise; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) and (e): India was the biggest importer of palm oil in the world and also the biggest importer of palm oil from Malaysia, as per the global trade data for the year 2018\*.

The details of the total palm oil imports from Malaysia during last three years are as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Import (in USD million)</b>
2017	1,480.64
2018	1,339.82

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2019	2229.97
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Source: DGCIS

\*Source- ITC Trademap

(b) to (d) and (f) & (g): There has been no report of any restriction imposed by the Government of Malaysia on inbound shipments of palm oil to India.  
There is no prohibition on import of palm oil from any country.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2084**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**IMPORT OF PALM OIL FROM INDONESIA**

2084. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to import palm oil from Indonesia instead of Malaysia;
- (b) if so, the details on the cost effectiveness and percentage of savings to the exchequer;
- (c) whether the quality of the palm oil so proposed to be imported from Indonesia has been checked and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) to (d): There is no prohibition on import of palm oil from any country. Directorate General of Foreign Trade has issued a Notification No. 39/2015-2020 dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 amending the import policy of Refined Palm Oil (HS 15119010), Refined Palmolein (HS 15119020) and Other (HS 15119090) from 'Free' to 'Restricted'. This notification is applicable on imports from all countries.  
There is no restriction on import of Crude Palm Oil at present.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2094**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**IMPORT OF FURNITURE AND TV SETS**

2094. MS. PRATIMA BHOUMIK:

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

- (a) whether the Government is in the process to impose restriction on import of furniture and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons behind it;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to put import of Television (TV) sets under the restricted category; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a), (b) & (c):** Government regularly monitors import of goods keeping in view concerns of quality standards, safety and security to protect consumer interests. Monitoring is also done in cases of surge in imports keeping in view the interests of domestic industry. This is a continuous and ongoing process and Government comes up with appropriate policy response whenever required.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2101 (H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**TRADE IN RAW SILK AND ITS PRODUCTS**

2101(H). SHRI HARISH DWIVEDI:

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

- (a) the details of nation-wise import and export of raw silk/silk thread and silk clothes as well as their prices during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government has imposed antidumping duty on the import of silk; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a):** Major country-wise import and export of raw silk/ natural silk yarn, fabrics, made-up/ RMG silk during last three years and the current year (April 2019 to January 2020) are given in **Annexure-I and Annexure-II** respectively.

**(b) and (c):** Anti-dumping duty of USD 1.85 per kg is in force on 'Mulberry Raw Silk of grade 3A and below' originating in or exported from China PRP. The duty is valid till 27.01.2021.

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question no. 2101 for answer on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

India's major country-wise Import of items under Principal Commodity Groups: natural silk yarn, fabrics, made-up, silk, raw and RMG silk for the last three financial years and the current year (April 2019 to January 2020)

( Value in 1000 US\$)

DESCRIPTION	COUNTRY	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 ( Apr- Jan)
NATURAL SILK YARN,FABRICS, MADEUP	CHINA P RP	37016	45260	29935	26311
	VIETNAM SOC REP	6155	12577	16827	11764
	ITALY	418	402	684	660
	SINGAPORE			9	471
	KOREA RP	229	251	263	427
	HONG KONG	86	157	295	425
	U K	13	84	49	214
	FRANCE	83	49	92	195
	U S A	147	69	61	108
	RMG SILK	CHINA P RP	1175	1404	1507
HONG KONG		14	9	22	643
ITALY		945	1004	3940	489
SINGAPORE		167	200	505	486
NEPAL		202	815	563	449
FRANCE		254	355	1418	277
BANGLADESH PR		276	42	437	259
SWITZERLAND		94	90	297	214
U K		122	103	435	184
SPAIN		376	527	543	135
TURKEY		42	31	114	131
U S A		47	45	61	58
SILK,RAW		CHINA P RP	126731	144088	99126
	VIETNAM SOC REP	22348	37098	46203	55900
	UZBEKISTAN	1151	1779	3	1433
	TAIWAN	52	126		459
	BRAZIL	405	210	80	458
	RUSSIA				202

Note: The units of measurement are different, quantity figures are not additive.

Source: DGCI&S. \* Provisional



Statement referred to in reply of part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question no. 2101 for answer on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

India's major country-wise Export of items under Principal Commodity Groups: natural silk yarn, fabrics, made-up, silk, raw and RMG silk for the last three financial years and the current year (April 2019 to January 2020)

Principal Commodity	Country	(Value in 1000 US\$)			
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (Apr-Jan)
NATURAL SILK YARN,FABRICS, MADEUP	U S A	1099	1157	1343	3100
	U K	708	668	557	532
	U ARAB EMTS	553	429	280	413
	ITALY	176	285	368	268
	SINGAPORE	97	106	228	229
	FRANCE	307	137	99	173
	GERMANY	245	253	271	152
	NEPAL	46	53	130	91
	CANADA	375	180	118	72
	KUWAIT	46	80	14	71
	SPAIN	17	37	33	58
	QATAR	25	60	74	56
	NETHERLAND	71	1	14	56
	BANGLADESH PR		9	123	50
RMG SILK	U S A	2136	1314	2334	1666
	FRANCE	363	387	338	1177
	AUSTRALIA	491	572	593	887
	U ARAB EMTS	5315	9353	4227	801
	NIGERIA	95	254	5199	797
	U K	556	855	636	724
	JAPAN	332	230	149	556
	GERMANY	376	489	736	512
	SPAIN	323	122	282	439
	GREECE	19	9	19	379
	NETHERLAND	102	98	151	373
	ITALY	1006	951	329	332
	SUDAN	175	1063	4247	237
	DENMARK	56	21	67	130
	NEPAL	4	36	193	111
SILK,RAW	VIETNAM SOC REP				76

Note: The units of measurement are different, quantity figures are not additive.

Source: DGCI&S. \* Provisional

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2112**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**REVIEW OF EXPORT BRANDING STRATEGY**

2112. SHRI SHIVAKUMAR C. UDASI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the branding strategy for export-oriented Indian products and services;
- (b) if so, the number of modes of branding campaign that has been identified and given a try;
- (c) whether any road map has been drawn as for the participation in International Trade Fairs, Expos and Seminars for the next three years; and
- (d) the details of the expected target of earnings from taking part in these events?

**ANSWER**

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

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): The India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF), established by the Department of Commerce promotes and creates awareness in international market about Indian products and services through branding campaigns. Branding campaigns have been undertaken by IBEF around international events for select export sectors to highlight their strength and achievements in major target markets through branding modes like venues, advertising through outdoor and print, media interaction, digital marketing (including social media), use of branding material etc. The branding strategy is reviewed regularly in consultation with concerned stakeholders to make suitable adjustment and maximise benefits for Indian products.

(c) & (d): Based on the proposals submitted by the Export Promotion Councils/ Trade Promotion Organizations, an annual plan for organizing participation of exporters in various international fairs

and expos is drawn and supported under the Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme. No targets of earnings from such events are fixed.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2143**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**NEW EXPORT INCENTIVE SCHEME**

2143. SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:

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

- (a) whether the Government is working on a new export incentive scheme;
- (b) if so, the details on how the proposed scheme is different from the existing Merchandise Export from India Scheme;
- (c) whether the new scheme is World Trade Organization (WTO)-compliant; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor and details on how the Government is planning to maneuver through the WTO conditions?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) & (b): The Government is formulating a Scheme for Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) under which a mechanism would be created for re-imburement of taxes/ duties/ levies, which are currently not being refunded under any other mechanism, at the central, state and local level, but which are incurred in the process of manufacture and distribution of exported products. RoDTEP is based on the principle that taxes and levies borne on the exported products should be either exempted or remitted to exporters unlike the Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) , which is an export incentive scheme.
- (c) & (d): RoDTEP Scheme is being conceptualized keeping in view the WTO provisions, particularly the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM).

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2156**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATIONS BY GCC**

2156. SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI KUNDARIYA:

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

- (a) whether anti-dumping investigations on ceramic and allied products have been initiated by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has received any representation from the industry requesting to take up the issue with GCC to review its anti- dumping investigations, which is impacting the domestic industry;
- (c) if so, the details of actions taken thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) to (b): Yes sir, Bureau of Technical Secretariat for Anti Injurious Practices in International Trade (TSAIP) - Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has initiated Anti-Dumping Investigation against the imports of ceramic/vitrified tiles under HS Code 6907 other than those of subheading 69073000 originating from China, Spain and India, on the basis of complaint received from Saudi ceramic industry in November 2018. Department of Commerce received representation from the Indian ceramic industry in December 2018 regarding methodology adopted by TSAIP-GCC to decide the dumping margins against import of ceramic tiles from India.
- (c) to (d): Upon receipt of the representation from the industry , a meeting was held with the representatives of the Indian ceramic industry on 18.12.2018 in which preliminary findings of the TSAIP-GCC report on dumping margins were discussed. The issue was also taken up with Saudi side during the workshop on strategic partnership with Saudi Centre for International Strategic Partnership (SCISP) in February, 2019 at Riyadh. After the issue of disclosure report and its translation from Arabic to English in November, 2019 by the law firm representing

the Indian ceramic industry in TSAIP-GCC, a delegation comprising senior officials from Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR), Department of Commerce, Government of India and representatives of Indian ceramic industry had a meeting with Director General, TSAIP-GCC Secretariat on 26.11.2019 at Riyadh to discuss the issue in detail. In the meeting, the Indian delegation apprised the TSAIP-GCC of certain facts and anomalies reflected in the disclosure report issued in November 2019 and requested them to consider the same in the final report. Later, after the receipt of inputs vetted by the law firm defending Indian ceramic industry's case in TSAIP-GCC on 6.12.2019, the issue was again pursued by the Department of Commerce, Government of India with GCC Authorities through the Indian Mission in Saudi Arabia. Further, this issue has been raised in bilateral discussion with Saudi Arabia including in the Ministerial meetings, viz., at Davos on the sidelines of World Economic Forum in January 2020 and at New Delhi in February, 2020.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2165 (H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**DECLINE IN EXPORT**

2165(H). SHRI JYOTIRMAY SINGH MAHATO:

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

- (a) whether export has declined during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the month-wise and region-wise details thereof at present; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to boost export and increase foreign exchange?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) and (b):** India's merchandise export during last three years and current year are as follows:

Years	Export ( US\$ Billion)	% Change	Export ( US\$ Billion) (excluding Petroleum Products and Gems & Jewellery)	% Change
2016-17	275.85	-	200.89	-
2017-18	303.53	10.03	224.51	11.77
2018-19	330.07	8.75	243.27	8.35
2018-19 ( Apr-Jan)	270.49	-	197.59	-
2019-20 ( Apr-Jan)*	265.26	-1.93	197.60	0.01

Source: DGCI&S. \* Provisional

The above table reveals that India's merchandise export has increased from 275.85 US\$ billion in 2016-17 to 303.53 US\$ billion in 2017-18 and to 330.07 US\$ billion in 2018-19, registering a positive growth of 10.03% and 8.75% as compared to the previous years. Excluding Petroleum Products and Gems & Jewellery, India's merchandise export has increased from 200.89 US\$

billion in 2016-17 to 224.51 US\$ billion in 2017-18 and to 243.27 US\$ billion in 2018-19, registering a positive growth of 11.77% and 8.75% as compared to the previous years and there is 0.01% positive growth during the current year (April 2019 to January 2020). The month-wise and region-wise merchandise export for the current year (April 2019 to January 2020) is at **Annexure-I**.

**(c):** In order to boost India's exports and increase foreign exchange, some of the steps taken by Government are as follows:

- (i) A new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20 was launched on 1st April 2015. The policy, inter alia, rationalised the earlier export promotion schemes and introduced two new schemes, namely 'Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)' for improving export of goods and 'Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS)' for increasing exports of services. Duty credit scrips issued under these schemes were made fully transferable.
- (ii) Based on Mid-term Review of the FTP 2015-20 undertaken on 5th December, 2017, incentives for labour intensive / MSME sectors were increased by 2%.
- (iii) A new Logistics Division was created in the Department of Commerce for integrated development of the logistics sector. India's rank in World Bank's Logistics Performance Index moved up from 54 in 2014 to 44 in 2018.
- (iv) Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit was introduced from 1.4.2015 providing interest equalisation at 3% for labour intensive / MSME sectors. The rate was increased to 5% for MSME sectors with effect from 2.11.2018 and merchant exporters were covered under the scheme with effect from 2.1.2019.
- (v) For improving ease of doing business, online issuance of Importer Exporter Codes (IEC), has been started. India's rank in World Bank 'Ease of Doing Business' ranking improved from 142 in 2014 to 63 in 2019 with the rank in 'trading across borders' moving up from 122 to 80.
- (vi) A new scheme called "Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)" was launched with effect from 1st April 2017 to address the export infrastructure gaps in the country.
- (vii) A comprehensive "Agriculture Export Policy" was launched on 6th December, 2018 with an aim to double farmers' income by 2022 and provide an impetus to agricultural exports.
- (viii) A new scheme called "Transport and Marketing Assistance" (TMA) has been launched for mitigating disadvantage of higher cost of transportation for export of specified agriculture products.

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Statement referred to in reply of part (a) to (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question no. 2165 for answer on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Month Wise and Region -wise India's Exports during in the current year (April 2019 to January 2020)

Region	Value in US \$ Billion									
	Apr,19	May,19	Jun, 19	Jul, 19	Aug, 19	Sep, 19	Oct, 19	Nov,19	Dec, 19	Jan, 20
<b>1) Europe</b>	<b>5.09</b>	<b>5.78</b>	<b>5.13</b>	<b>4.91</b>	<b>5.14</b>	<b>4.92</b>	<b>4.95</b>	<b>4.65</b>	<b>5.36</b>	<b>5.34</b>
1.1 EU Countries	4.53	5.23	4.56	4.35	4.49	4.31	4.32	4.12	4.78	4.79
1.2 European Free Trade Association (EFTA)	0.13	0.16	0.21	0.12	0.17	0.13	0.12	0.10	0.13	0.12
1.3 Other European Countries	0.43	0.40	0.37	0.45	0.47	0.48	0.51	0.43	0.46	0.43
<b>2) Africa</b>	<b>2.41</b>	<b>2.46</b>	<b>2.23</b>	<b>2.61</b>	<b>2.36</b>	<b>2.54</b>	<b>2.49</b>	<b>2.37</b>	<b>2.47</b>	<b>2.39</b>
2.1 Southern African Customs Union (SACU)	0.29	0.37	0.38	0.44	0.39	0.34	0.44	0.35	0.37	0.32
2.2 Other South African Countries	0.18	0.26	0.19	0.28	0.25	0.32	0.22	0.23	0.26	0.22
2.3 West Africa	0.70	0.66	0.60	0.69	0.63	0.73	0.69	0.74	0.69	0.72
2.4 Central Africa	0.12	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.15	0.11	0.12	0.12	0.14	0.12
2.5 East Africa	0.64	0.50	0.49	0.66	0.53	0.59	0.57	0.51	0.51	0.61
2.6 North Africa	0.49	0.57	0.46	0.42	0.41	0.44	0.44	0.43	0.49	0.39
<b>3) America</b>	<b>5.31</b>	<b>6.36</b>	<b>5.62</b>	<b>5.85</b>	<b>5.91</b>	<b>5.74</b>	<b>5.93</b>	<b>5.75</b>	<b>6.28</b>	<b>5.95</b>
3.1 North America	4.63	5.49	4.83	5.01	5.09	4.92	5.14	4.83	5.31	4.98
3.2 Latin America	0.68	0.87	0.79	0.84	0.83	0.82	0.79	0.93	0.98	0.97
<b>4) Asia</b>	<b>12.70</b>	<b>14.59</b>	<b>11.21</b>	<b>12.31</b>	<b>11.87</b>	<b>12.26</b>	<b>12.11</b>	<b>12.21</b>	<b>12.49</b>	<b>11.76</b>
4.1 East Asia (Oceania)	0.23	0.27	0.26	0.34	0.33	0.28	0.27	0.26	0.36	0.25
4.2 ASEAN	3.07	3.16	2.17	2.79	2.65	2.54	2.51	2.62	2.51	2.45
4.3 West Asia - GCC	3.23	4.41	2.91	3.33	3.10	3.10	3.43	3.41	3.48	3.24
4.4 Other West Asia	1.04	1.30	1.03	0.85	0.89	0.76	0.74	0.81	0.88	0.84
4.5 NE Asia	3.16	3.48	3.16	3.24	3.13	3.75	3.45	3.26	3.31	3.15
4.6 South Asia	1.97	1.97	1.69	1.75	1.77	1.83	1.72	1.85	1.96	1.83
<b>5) CIS &amp; Baltics</b>	<b>0.27</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.32</b>	<b>0.39</b>	<b>0.39</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>0.33</b>
5.1 CARs Countries	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.04
5.2 Other CIS Countries	0.24	0.29	0.28	0.31	0.32	0.29	0.35	0.35	0.31	0.29
<b>6) Unspecified Region</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>0.31</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>0.20</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>0.35</b>	<b>0.26</b>	<b>0.19</b>	<b>0.20</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.03</b>	<b>29.85</b>	<b>25.02</b>	<b>26.23</b>	<b>25.98</b>	<b>26.01</b>	<b>26.21</b>	<b>25.63</b>	<b>27.14</b>	<b>25.97</b>

Source: DGCI&S, Data are provisional.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2177 (H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**MAKING INDIA THE LARGEST EXPORTING COUNTRY**

2177(H). SHRIMATI RANJANBEN DHANANJAY BHATT:

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

- (a) whether the Government is seriously considering to make India the largest exporting country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps in this regard so far;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (d):** India's share in world exports (Goods and Services) is 2.1 % and has been ranked 19<sup>th</sup> in merchandise export and 8<sup>th</sup> in services export as per the latest WTO estimates.

In order to boost India's exports, some of the steps taken by Government are as follows:

- (i) A new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20 was launched on 1st April 2015. The policy, inter alia, rationalised the earlier export promotion schemes and introduced two new schemes, namely 'Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS)' for improving export of goods and 'Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS)' for increasing exports of services. Duty credit scrips issued under these schemes were made fully transferable.
- (ii) Based on Mid-term Review of the FTP 2015-20 undertaken on 5th December, 2017, incentives for labour intensive / MSME sectors were increased by 2%.

- (iii) A new Logistics Division was created in the Department of Commerce for integrated development of the logistics sector. India's rank in World Bank's Logistics Performance Index moved up from 54 in 2014 to 44 in 2018.
- (iv) Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit was introduced from 1.4.2015 providing interest equalisation at 3% for labour intensive / MSME sectors. The rate was increased to 5% for MSME sectors with effect from 2.11.2018 and merchant exporters were covered under the scheme with effect from 2.1.2019.
- (v) For improving ease of doing business, online issuance of Importer Exporter Codes (IEC), has been started. India's rank in World Bank 'Ease of Doing Business' ranking improved from 142 in 2014 to 63 in 2019 with the rank in 'trading across borders' moving up from 122 to 80.
- (vi) A new scheme called "Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)" was launched with effect from 1st April 2017 to address the export infrastructure gaps in the country.
- (vii) A comprehensive "Agriculture Export Policy" was launched on 6th December, 2018 with an aim to double farmers' income by 2022 and provide an impetus to agricultural exports.
- (viii) A new scheme called "Transport and Marketing Assistance" (TMA) has been launched for mitigating disadvantage of higher cost of transportation for export of specified agriculture products.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2234**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**BENEFITS FROM RoSTCL AND MEIS**

2234. SHRI ACHYUTANANDA SAMANTA:

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

- (a) the details of the implementation of the tax benefits and refunds owed or given to garment manufacturers or exporters under the Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSTCL) and the Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) in the last year; and
- (b) considering that retrospective withdrawal of the MEIS scheme might bring considerable hardship to the garment export sector, whether the Government will consider reviewing such withdrawal or at least extending the benefits in the short run and if not, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) Pursuant to the Ministry of Textiles notification dated 14.01.2020, a special one-time additional ad-hoc incentive of upto 1% of Free On Board (FoB) value is being provided for those exports of apparel and made-ups which may receive lesser benefits under Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) as against Rebate of State Levies (RoSL) plus Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS). As per the notification, MEIS also stands withdrawn from 07.03.2019 for apparel and made-ups. In order to implement the above notification, the online module through which the exporters can file RoSCTL and 1% Additional adhoc incentive claims has been operationalized on 20.02.2020. The complete details of the refunds under RoSCTL and additional adhoc incentives would be available once all applications for the export period 07.03.2019 to 31.12.2019 are received, the last date for which is 30.06.2020.
- (b) Any review of withdrawal of MEIS or to extend MEIS benefits in the short run for the apparel and made-ups sector is not being considered at present, as an additional 1% adhoc incentive has already been provided. Further, RoSCTL scheme, which provides

benefits comparable to RoSL plus MEIS, and being compatible with World Trade Organization (WTO) provisions, has also been operationalized, thereby providing support to these sectors.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2235**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**CASHEW PROCESSING SECTOR**

2235. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the cashew processing sector experiencing a financial crisis in Kerala;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed to provide a comprehensive relief package for helping the said employees, who are primarily women, in the cashew industry;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has monitored cashew factories that defaulted on their share of contribution to the Employees Social Securities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, action taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) &(b): It has come to the notice of the Government that due to supply situation of raw cashew nuts in the international market, certain section of the cashew industry is facing some difficulties.

(c) & (d): The Government has taken several steps to address the issues affecting cashew industry, which will also help the employees working in the cashew industry:

- i. Import Policy for cashew kernels, both whole and broken, has been changed from 'free' to 'prohibited' vide notification dated 12th June 2019 and the imports are allowed only if the CIF value is more than Rs. 680/- per kg for broken and Rs. 720/- per Kg for whole cashew kernel.
- ii. Basic Custom Duty on import of raw cashew nut has been reduced from 5% to 2.5% w.e.f 01.02.2018.

- iii. Goods and Service Tax (GST) for Cashew nuts has been reduced from 12%to 5%.
- iv. In Mid Term Review of Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), the support under the Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) for cashew was increased to 5% (from 3%) for cashew kernel and 7% (from 5%) for salted/roasted cashew, respectively.
- v. The Standard Inputs Output Norms (SION) was revised to 1 kg kernel from 5.04 kg of raw cashew nuts as against earlier norms of 1 kg from 4 kg of raw cashew nut for export of Cashew Kernel, from imported raw cashew nut, under Advance Authorization Scheme.
- vi. Approved Medium Term Framework (2017-2020) Scheme for Process Mechanization and Automation of Cashew Processing Units with financial outlay of Rs.60.00 crore.
- vii. Duty free import of raw cashewnuts is allowed under Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme from Least Developed Countries (LDCs).
- viii. Extended financial assistance to Cashew Export Promotion Council of India (CEPCI) for organizing Buyer Seller Meet (BSM) and participation in International fair under Market Access Initiative (MAI) scheme, in order to tap new markets and Branding.

(e) & (f): Compliance position of the factories/ establishments, which are covered under the ESI Act, 1948, is monitored by the ESI Corporation and action is taken against the defaulter factories/ establishments, including cashew factories, as per provisions of the ESI Act, 1948. As per the information furnished by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, there are 131 non-compliant cashew factories in Kerala and defaulter action has been initiated in most of the cases.

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation monitors the defaulting establishments through 'Default Management' system on monthly basis. The Act provides for assessment of dues from defaulting establishments. In respect of 75 defaulting cashew establishments, inquiries have been concluded and an amount of Rs. 206.82 lakhs has been assessed in Kerala.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2239 (H)**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**BENEFITS OF FTAs**

2239(H). SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether the small and medium exporters are not getting the benefits of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) signed with different countries;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is taking/proposes to take any step to extend its benefits to small and medium exporters;
- (c) the details of steps taken by the Government to promote global trade; and
- (d) whether the Government has made up its mind to give any package to small and medium exporters?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d): The Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) signed by India provide tariff concessions thereby giving opportunities for exports of products including those related to small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Some of the SME products on which tariff concessions have been provided by trading partners such as Japan, South Korea and some ASEAN countries fall into the category of readymade garments, leather goods, processed foods and engineering products like auto components. The specific export promotion schemes for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) include those for participation in international exhibitions and fairs, training programme on packaging for exports, Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme for MSME exporters and National Award for quality products. Some of the other measures taken by the Government which would promote trade and benefit exports from SMEs are specific schemes under the new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20 such as Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit, Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS), Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS), double weightage for export entitlement to SMEs for grant of one star export house, electronic filing and issuance for specified FTP Schemes, online platform for preferential certificates of origin, etc. While a logistics division has been created in the Department of Commerce to coordinate integrated development of the logistics sector with a view to promoting



trade, some of the new schemes and policies that have been launched to facilitate trade are Agriculture Export Policy, Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) and Transport and Marketing Assistance (TMA).

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2253**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**STATUS OF SEZ s IN INDIA**

2253. SHRI KAPIL MORESHWAR PATIL:

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

- (a) the salient features of the current Special Economic Zones (SEZs) policy;
- (b) whether shortcomings of the said policy have been reported in the said policy, resulting in huge revenue losses to the Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review the SEZ policy including amendments in the relevant law and/or procedure thereon; and
- (d) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): The Special Economic Zones (SEZs) policy was launched in April, 2000. The Special Economic Zones Act, 2005, was passed by Parliament in May, 2005 which received Presidential assent on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June, 2005. The SEZs Rules, 2006 came into effect on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2006. The salient features of the SEZ scheme are:-

- (i) A designated duty free enclave to be treated as a territory outside the customs territory of India for the purpose of authorised operations in the SEZ;
- (ii) No licence required for import;
- (iii) Manufacturing or service activities allowed;
- (iv) The Unit shall achieve Positive Net Foreign Exchange to be calculated cumulatively for a period of five years from the commencement of production;
- (v) Domestic sales subject to full customs duty and import policy in force;
- (vi) SEZ units will have freedom for subcontracting;
- (vii) No routine examination by customs authorities of export/import cargo;

(viii) SEZ Developers /Co-Developers and Units enjoy Direct Tax and Indirect Tax benefits as prescribed in the SEZs Act, 2005.

(b): The fiscal concessions and duty benefits allowed to SEZs are inbuilt into the SEZs Act, 2005. These exemptions are in the nature of incentives for export and are consistent with the principles that guide export promotion initiatives of the Government in general. Incentives provided are conscious public policy actions and cannot be termed as revenue loss.

(c) & (d): The Government had constituted a Group of eminent persons under the Chairmanship of Shri Baba Kalyani vide Department of Commerce Order dated 04.06.2018 to study the SEZ Policy of India. The Group submitted its report to Hon'ble CIM on 19.11.2018. A number of recommendations of the Group have already been implemented which are at **Annexure.**

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## ***Annexure to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2253 for 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2020***

The recommendations of the Group which have already been acted upon are as follows.

- Review specific exclusions proposed in NFE computation in light of “Make in India” initiative, especially projects of economic importance - The recommendation sought that the status quo prior to 19.09.2018 should be retained. Accordingly, the same was implemented through a suitable amendment to the SEZ Rules in March-2019.
- Sharing of duty exempted assets/ infrastructure between units to be allowed against specific approval – This recommendation was implemented through a suitable Clarification issued on 11.06.2019 for allowing usage of common infrastructure like canteen / datacenters etc among SEZ units against specific approval.
- Inclusion of indigenous goods in NFE computation should be excluded as there is no foreign exchange outflow on procurement of indigenous goods and same is contrary to the objective of NFE and principles followed for EOUs - The same was implemented through a suitable amendment to the SEZ Rules in March-2019.
- Formalize “de-notification” process for enclaves and delink its present mandatory usage for SEZs purpose only - This recommendation was implemented through a suitable Clarification dated 28.01.2019 issued to all DCs with copy to State/UTs which relaxed the mandatory usage requirement that stipulated that the denotified land shall be used for SEZ purpose only.
- Support to enable servicification of manufacturing zones. Allowing manufacturing enabling services companies e.g. R&D services, engineering design services, logistics service – This recommendation has been implemented through a suitable amendment to Rule 5 of the SEZ rules on 17.12.2019 which rendered all existing and future SEZs as multi-sector SEZs thereby allowing for the co-existence of SEZ units of any sector with any other sector.
- Broad-banding definition of services/allowing multiple services to come together - This recommendation has been implemented through a suitable amendment to Rule 5 of the SEZ rules on 17.12.2019 which rendered all existing and future SEZs as multi-sector SEZs thereby allowing for the co-existence of SEZ units of any sector with any other sector.
- Review/relax minimum land/built-up area requirement - This recommendation has been implemented through a suitable amendment to Rule 5 of the SEZ rules on 17.12.2019 which relaxed the minimum land area requirement for setting up a multi-sector SEZ from the erstwhile requirement of 500 hectares to 50 hectares.
- Developer should be allowed flexibility to enter into a long term lease agreement with stakeholders in Zones in line with the State policies - This recommendation was implemented through an instruction No. 98 dated 29.08.2019 which relaxed the earlier stipulation of maximum lease period of 30 years to allow flexibility in lease tenure which would be in line with the maximum tenure allowed under the state / local government law / regulations.
- The application for constructing minimum built up area by Developer or Co-developer beyond a period of ten years from the date of notification of the Special Economic Zone to be considered by BOA on merits of each case - This recommendation has been

implemented through a suitable amendment to Rule 5 of the SEZ rules on 17.12.2019 thereby empowering the Board of Approval to consider proposals for extensions for period beyond earlier stipulated ten years based on the merits of each case.

- Enabling provisions for transfer of approval from one co-developer to other co-developer – This recommendation has been examined and is being implemented through the mechanism of Board of Approvals which examines and approves such proposals on the merits of each case.
- Funding mechanism for last mile connectivity for SEZs - A mechanism for funding such requirement of last mile connectivity infrastructure has enabled through the existing scheme of TIES which has been clarified through suitable instruction to Development Commissioners in Jan-2020.

Besides the recommendations of the Group, the following further steps have been taken towards enabling ease of doing business and enhancing flexibility.

- Delegation of powers to Development Commissioner for shifting of SEZ unit from one SEZ to another within their jurisdiction – Earlier such proposals for shifting of SEZ units from one SEZ to another were processed and approved at the level of Commerce Secretary which has now been delegated to the level of jurisdictional Development Commissioners.
- Enable a trust to be considered eligible to set-up a unit in a SEZ, including a unit to be set-up in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC). This will also provide flexibility to GoI to include any entity that may be required to be notified from time to time to set-up a unit in a SEZ
- Setting up of cafeteria, gymnasium, creche and other similar facilities / amenities allowed to SEZ units – The request of SEZ units to set up facilities such as cafeteria, gymnasium, creche and other similar facilities / amenities were allowed through a suitable Instruction dated 11.06.2019.
- Revised guidelines for Work from Home policy – The revised guidelines were enabled through an amendment to the SEZ Rules in March-2019 to allow for employees of SEZ units to work for home.
- Uniform list of services to SEZ – This provides for a broad list of input services that could be utilized by SEZ units for their day-to-day operations thereby avoiding the requirement of the units to seek permission of Development Commissioners for each such instance.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2280**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**GLOBAL IMPACT ON INDIA'S EXPORTS**

2280. SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA:

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

- (a) whether India's exports have suffered due to erosion in demand from the international market during the recent and current global economic meltdown;
- (b) if so, the details on how India's exports during 2018-19 fell as compared to those during the last three years; and
- (c) the details of the main items of export in respect of which the trade has considerably come down?

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (c):** Since the global financial crisis of 2008-09, the world has seen considerable challenges to economic growth and trade. With regard to the current situation, as per World Trade Organization (WTO) press release dated 01.10.2019, World Merchandise Trade volume was forecast to grow at 1.2% in 2019. This is substantially below the 2.6% trade growth that was projected earlier by WTO in April 2019.

In this turbulent global scenario, India's exports have faced a challenging period in recent years. However, through concerted efforts like improved logistics, facilitation through increased digitization to reduce human interface and increased transparency of Government schemes aimed at incentivization and facilitation of exporters, quick resolution of implementation issues of GST, capacity building through skilling etc., the Government was able to arrest the challenges and our merchandise exports grew on a secular basis over the last three financial years, to reach a new peak of USD 330.1 Billion in 2018-19.

Details of export performance during the last three years are as follows:-

<b>Years</b>	<b>Export ( US\$ Billion)</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Export ( US\$ Billion) (excluding Petroleum Products and Gems &amp; Jewellery)</b>	<b>% Change</b>
2016-17	275.85	-	200.89	-
2017-18	303.53	10.03	224.51	11.77
2018-19	330.07	8.75	243.27	8.35

Source: DGCIS&S.

The above table reveals that India's merchandise export has increased from 275.85 US\$ billion in 2016-17 to 303.53 US\$ billion in 2017-18 and to 330.07 US\$ billion in 2018-19, registering a positive growth of 10.03% and 8.75% as compared to the previous years. Excluding Petroleum Products and Gems & Jewellery, India's merchandise export has increased from 200.89 US\$ billion in 2016-17 to 224.51 US\$ billion in 2017-18 and to 243.27 US\$ billion in 2018-19, registering a positive growth of 11.77% and 8.75% as compared to the previous years.

Details of major Commodity Groups in terms of their export performance for the financial year 2018-19 is enclosed.

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## India'Export Performance

### % Change

Sl. No.	Commodities	Growth / decline
		% APR'18-MAR'19
1	Iron Ore	-10.53
2	Electronic Goods	38.91
3	Spices	5.03
4	Oil seeds	1.81
5	Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	11.03
6	Ceramic products & glassware	23.64
7	Jute Mfg. including Floor Covering	-3.03
8	Tea	-0.75
9	Organic & Inorganic Chemicals	21.96
10	Marine Products	-8.06
11	RMG of all Textiles	-3.40
12	Cereal preparations & miscellaneous processed items	8.95
13	Handicrafts excl. Hand-made carpet	0.86
14	Engineering Goods	6.36
15	Man-made Yarn/Fabs./made -ups etc.	3.15
16	Tobacco	5.22
17	Mica, Coal & Other Ores, Minerals including processed minerals	10.49
18	Carpet	3.63
19	Gems & Jewellery	-3.67
20	Others	17.34
21	Petroleum Products	28.00
22	Leather & leather products	-2.81
23	Coffee	-15.12
24	Fruits & Vegetables	-4.71
25	Cotton Yarn/Fabs./made -ups, Handloom Products etc.	9.22
26	Plastic & Linoleum	25.61
27	Meat, dairy & poultry products	-5.35
28	Cashew	-29.06
29	Rice	-2.25
30	Oil Meals	33.73
31	Other cereals	27.6
	<b>Overall growth (%)</b>	<b>9.00</b>

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2289**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**TEA EXPORT FROM INDIA**

2289. DR. SUBHAS SARKAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has data on the quantity of tea exported from different States including West Bengal during each of the last three years and if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal or has planned any special package for small tea growers of the country especially in the States of West Bengal and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the different measures being taken by the Government to increase the total tea production in the country?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): Tea Board collects exports data in the form of returns from the registered exporters under Tea (Distribution & Export) Control Order. State-wise export data is not collected as majority of the tea is exported by Merchant Exporters who blend the tea for export purpose s.

However, Indian tea exported from different ports of West Bengal vis-à-vis All India during the last three years and the current financial year is given in the following Table:

Year	Exports from West Bengal Ports		All India Exports	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
	(in M.Kgs)	(Rs.Crs)	(in M.Kgs)	(Rs.Crs)
2016-17	114.07	2512.23	227.63	4632.50
2017-18	133.10	2861.64	256.57	5064.88
2018-19	131.52	3113.74	254.50	5506.84
2019-20 (Apr-Dec)*	95.44	2345.39	184.63	4191.79
2018-19 (Apr-Dec)	96.28	2281.68	190.84	4088.01

\*Provisional, subject to revision

Source: Tea Board, Kolkata

(b)&(c): The Tea Board under the ongoing Tea Development and Promotion Scheme (TDPS) extends financial assistance to the small tea growers across the country including the State of West Bengal for replanting, rejuvenation, pruning, irrigation, assistance to Self Help Groups (SHGs), field mechanization, assistance to Farmers' Producers Organizations (FPOs), annual award for SHGs & FPOs, setting up of new factories by FPOs, setting up of mini factories, workshop/training and development & promotion of organic farming/organic conversion, etc. During the financial years 2017-18 to 2019-20 (upto Dec, 2019), the Tea Board has disbursed Rs.6.97 crores for the benefit of small tea growers in West Bengal under different small growers activities.

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