DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Major Achievements for the Month of October, 2026

1. Trade performance

- India's external sector continued to demonstrate resilience amid an evolving global trade environment. During April–September 2026, India's total exports of merchandise and services were US$ 478.85 billion, compared with US$ 418.31 billion during the corresponding period of 2025, registering a growth of 14.47%. Merchandise exports during the period grew by 18.37% to US$ 259.59 billion, while non-petroleum exports increased by 15.52% to US$ 218.64 billion. Services exports during the same period were US$ 219.27 billion, registering a growth of 10.18%.

2. Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)

- During the month of October 2026, details of fund released under Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) is as below:

  ₹ 11.92 crore (1st instalment of TIES Grant) to Centre for Aromatics Plants (CAP), Govt. of Uttarakhand for the project "Setting up of Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) facility for Adulteration Assessment".

3. FT (Oceania)

- The India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA) entered into force on 20 October 2026. The entry into force of the Agreement was jointly announced by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, and New Zealand's Minister for Trade and Investment, Hon. Todd McClay, through a virtual conference on 19 October 2026.

4. FT(ASEAN)

- The 15th AITIGA JC Meeting was held on 6th – 9th October, 2026 in Jakarta, Indonesia co-chaired by Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce and Deputy Secretary General (Trade), Ministry of Investment, Trade & Industry, Malaysia for detailed discussion and reviewed the progress of negotiations.
- 3rd India-Brunei Darussalam Joint Trade Committee (JTC) meeting was held in New Delhi on 14th October, 2026 under the co-chairmanship of JS, Department of Commerce and Permanent Secretary, Trade and Industry, Brunei Darussalam. The JTC discussed to deepen the collaboration for trade and economic cooperation in the areas of agriculture, pharmaceuticals, health, energy, trade fairs, tourism, investment and better utilisation of AITIGA.

5. FT (South Asia)

- The Second round of negotiations under the India-Maldives Free Trade Agreement (IMFTA) commenced in September 2026 and is currently ongoing.

6. FT (Europe-2)

- The 2nd India-European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Prosperity Summit was held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on 7th October, 2026, marking the first anniversary of the India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) which entered into force on 1st October, 2025. The summit was attended by the President of the Swiss Confederation, Union Minister of Railways, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry and senior representatives from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway.

7. Indian Oilseeds and Produce Export Promotion Council (IOPEPC)

- IOPEPC inaugurates the 8th edition of IOPEPC Global Oilseeds Conference (IGOC) 2026 in Phuket, Thailand.

8. Tobacco Board

- The Tobacco Board participated in World Tobacco Asia 2026, an international trade exhibition held at Surabaya, Indonesia, from 22nd to 23rd October 2026.
- A total of 21 registrations were granted under various categories of traders / manufacturers during the month.
- ₹39.80 lakh as interest free loans to 41 growers. (i.e. Daughter marriage loan, Children education loan and Barn damage loan)

9. Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR)

- On the recommendation of DGTR, CBIC imposed Anti-dumping Duty on imports of "Titanium Dioxide" originating in or exported from China PR, vide notification no. 26/2026-Customs (CVD) dated 24.10.2026.

10. Special Economic Zones (SEZ)

- During the month of October 2026, the Development Commissioners of various SEZs approved investment proposals amounting to ₹ 3186.56 crore. These approved proposals are expected to generate direct employment opportunities for approximately 12,359 persons, thereby strengthening industrial growth, promoting exports, and contributing to employment generation across the SEZ ecosystem.

11. Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC)

- During October 2026, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited (ECGC Ltd.) earned a premium of Rs. 134.63 Crore, issued 964 policies, added 1,356 new buyers and settled claims worth Rs. 21.64 Crore.

12. GeM

- GeM crossed ₹21.68 lakh crore in cumulative GMV, with more than 3.95 crore orders processed through the platform.

- GeM has expanded its marketplace to more than 11,326 product categories and 352 service categories, serving over 1.38 lakh buyer organisations across the country.
- The total procurement from Central Organizations for October 2026 is ₹33,316 crore vs. ₹24,846 crore in October 2025.
- Central Coalfields Limited has placed highest-value order on GeM worth ₹535 crore for handling, Transport and Other Mining Services – Percentage Quote Based.
- Uttar Pradesh has procured the most Goods and Services from GeM with a contribution of ₹2,868 crore in overall GMV in October 2026.
- GeM recorded GMV exceeding ₹5 lakh crore in two consecutive FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26 and achieved ₹3,27,757 crore GMV during the first seven months of FY 2026-27.
- More than 12.70 lakh MSEs are registered on GeM and have fulfilled orders worth ₹9.71 lakh crore, contributing 44.8% of the platform's cumulative GMV.
- More than 2.34 lakh women-led MSEs are registered on GeM, fulfilling over 54 lakh orders valued at ₹1,08,277 crore.
- 73,829 MSEs owned by SC/ ST entrepreneurs have fulfilled more than 9.76 lakh orders worth ₹24,996 crore.
- As of 31st October 2026, the cumulative GMV on platform since its inception has reached ₹10.62 lakh crore for Services and ₹11.06 lakh crore for Products. During the FY 2025-26, the GMV stood at ₹2.48 lakh crore for Services and ₹2.55 lakh crore for Products. In FY 2026-27, the GMV of Services has crossed ₹1,75,300 crore, while the GMV for Products has crossed ₹1,52,457 lakh crore as of 31st October, 2026.
- GeM strengthened capacity-building and outreach by training 17,651 participants, comprising 15,117 buyers and 2,534 sellers, through 434 training sessions and 08 outreach events.
- GeM has strengthened last-mile outreach through more than 5.2 lakh CSC centres and 1.5 lakh India Post offices, facilitating wider participation and capacity-building among buyers, sellers and service providers.

13. MPEDA

- During the month of October 2026, MPEDA issued 2,514 Export Facilitation Certificates. MPEDA issued digitised certificates of registration to 29 exporters, 4 Processing plants, 3 handling facilities, 4 storage facilities. Currently, 545U-approved seafood processing establishments and 78 EU-approved cold storage facilities are present.
- Organized the India Pavilion at the 27th International Frozen Seafood Exhibition (CONXEMAR 2026) held on 6th – 8th October 2026 at IFEVI in Vigo, Spain, Featuring five leading Indian seafood exporters as co-exhibitors.

14. APEDA

- APEDA participated in the Global Food Summit 2026, held at ADNEC, Abu Dhabi, UAE, where India was honoured as the Guest of Honour Country held from 6th to 8th October 2026, showcasing the strength and diversity of India's agricultural and processed food sector.
- India participated in SIAL Paris 2026 from 17th - 21st October, 2026 as the Partner Country, with Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) and the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) leading the India Pavilion to showcase the country's diverse agricultural and processed food products and connect Indian exporters with international buyers.

The pavilion brought together over 150 Indian exhibitors, highlighting India's strengths across basmati rice, grains, fruits and vegetables, organic products, processed foods and food innovations.

- An Interim Mutual Recognition Arrangement (IMRA) to facilitate trade in organic food and agricultural products between India and New Zealand came into effect from 20.10.2026 on the basis of side-letter commitment under India–New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (FTA).
- APEDA facilitated the flag off New product to new destination:

i. On 1st October 2026, 24 MT of frozen food products from Sonipat, Haryana, to Canada, strengthening international market opportunities for Indian processed food products.

ii. On 15th October 2026, maiden export consignment of 1.755 MT of NPOP and EU-certified organic Palmyra Jaggery Powder from Gobichettipalayam, Erode district, Tamil Nadu, to Varna, Bulgaria.

iii. On 21st October 2026, 1.3 MT of Sinduri Pomegranates from Kullu district, Himachal Pradesh, to Dubai, UAE, expanding international market opportunities for the state's horticultural produce.

iv. On 26th October 2026, 1.5 MT of Kiwi from Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh, to Dubai, UAE, for international market assessment.

v. On 28th October 2026, the first-ever export consignment of 2.5 MT of GI-tagged Tandur Red Gram from Hyderabad, Telangana, to Australia, expanding international market opportunities for the state's region-specific agricultural products.

vi. On 31st October 2026, first commercial export of approximately 1.25 MT of GI-tagged Seoni Jumbo Sitafal (Custard Apple) from Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh, to Sharjah, UAE, expanding international market opportunities for the state's GI-tagged horticultural produce.

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