

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1616
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

EXPORT CLEARANCE PROCESS

1616. SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made a new policy to improve export clearance process for agricultural products and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has held talks with other countries to 'No Border Seal' for agricultural products which are perishable like grapes, other fruits and vegetables;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has taken away decision to prepare an agreement for the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (d): The Government is facilitating export of agricultural commodities through inspection and phytosanitary certification as per the requirements of importing countries. This is undertaken as per International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), 1951 of Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Presently, there are 73 Plant quarantine Stations at different international airports, seaports and land frontiers implementing the plant quarantine regulations. Approval/accreditation/registration is also granted for treatment providers (Aluminum Phosphide fumigation/ forced hot air treatment, irradiation, vapour heat treatment & hot water immersion treatment etc.), pack houses, farm units, warehouses and processing units for fulfilling product-specific requirements of importing countries.

The existing Plant Quarantine Information System (PQIS) is being replaced by Plant Quarantine Management System (PQMS), a new online system, which would integrate with the "e-phyto system of IPPC and would ease the process of export of agricultural commodities.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1636
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

1636. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

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

- (a) the details of the issues that are on priority for the Government and the developing countries at the upcoming 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12);
- (b) whether the Government hopes for a permanent resolution to the issue of public stockholding;
- (c) if not, the details of the further course of action with the difference between per farmer amber box support between the developed and developing world including India; and
- (d) the details of the response at the WTO to the Government's proposal of allowing a 25 year horizon for continuing subsidies on fisheries and the further course of action in case of non-acceptance?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): The Twelfth Ministerial Conference (MC12) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) scheduled to be held during 30th November to 3rd December 2021, has been indefinitely postponed in view of the serious epidemiological situation that arose and resultant travel restrictions imposed by the authorities concerned. For MC12, issues of priority for India and the developing countries include a permanent solution to public stockholding for food security purposes, a temporary waiver from certain provisions of the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and fisheries subsidies negotiations.

(b) to (d): At the WTO, which is a Member-driven organisation decisions are taken on the basis of consensus amongst members. For taking forward areas of our priority India along with the G33 group of nations has proposed for a permanent solution to the issue of public stockholding for food security purposes and has tabled a proposal on fisheries subsidies, which has support of some like-minded countries.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1653
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

ODOP

1653. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to make every district self-reliant through One-District-One Product (ODOP) and to provide employment opportunities by taking local products at global level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry has identified strengths and opportunities under ODOP and if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address those gaps; and
- (d) the detail of the efforts being made by the Government to encourage investment to boost manufacturing and push exports?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (c): Under “Districts as Export Hubs” Initiative of the Department of Commerce, various activities are undertaken including One District One Product(ODOP). The focus under ODOP was manufacturing and marketing of the products within the country with identification of largely one product in a district. The “District as Export Hubs” is a broader initiative that covers exports of multiple products and services from all the districts in the country. This included setting up an institutional mechanism in State/UT by forming State Export Promotion Committee (SEPC) and District Export Promotion Committee (DEPC) at the District level.

The products and services for all districts under the “Districts as Export Hubs” have been identified on the basis of consultation with the States/UTs. Regular updation of the products and services is being carried out in consultation with the State/UTs.

District Export Action Plans under “Districts as Export Hubs” in more than 450 districts detailing the existing bottlenecks in the supply chain and identifying possible interventions to mitigate the

existing gaps have been prepared. These outline the support required by the local exporters and manufacturers to seamlessly export the identified products and services by supporting new businesses to export and generating employment opportunities in the districts.

(d) : To encourage exports from the districts under “Districts as Export Hubs”, export promotion outreach events are being held in various districts. This includes handholding sessions with exporters and export related awareness sessions with exporters along with representatives of various related agencies/departments such as Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), Banks, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Export Promotion Councils, Local Trade Association/Chambers of Commerce, District Industries Centres, etc.

Government has taken various steps in addition to ongoing schemes to boost domestic investments in India. These include the National Infrastructure Pipeline, Reduction in Corporate Tax, easing liquidity problems of NBFCs and Banks, trade policy measures to boost domestic manufacturing. Government of India has also promoted domestic manufacturing of goods through public procurement orders, Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP), Schemes for Production Linked Incentives of various Ministries.

Envisioned as a one-stop for taking all the regulatory approvals and services in the country, National Single Window System (NSWS) was soft-launched on 22nd September 2021. This national portal integrates the existing clearance systems of the various Ministries/ Departments of Govt. of India and State Governments without disruption to the existing IT portals of Ministries/ Departments.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1687 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

TURMERIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

1687(H). SHRI HEMANT SRIRAM PATIL:

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

- (a) whether any proposal to set up a project on turmeric development in Hingoli and Nanded districts of Maharashtra is under consideration of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a), (b) & (c): The mandate for production, research, development, domestic marketing of spices including turmeric is vested with the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. However, the Spices Board as per its mandate for production and research of cardamom and post-harvest management, quality control, and export promotion of 52 scheduled spices, has been undertaking activities for post-harvest improvement, building market linkages, export promotion, etc, of spices including turmeric, which has benefited the stakeholders of Hingoli and Nanded districts of Maharashtra.

The Board has established Regional Office in Mumbai, Maharashtra for the implementation of various programs for post-harvest management and quality improvement of turmeric and other spices.

The Board is implementing Post Harvest Improvement programs, viz, assisting growers for purchasing machineries such as Turmeric boilers & polishers, slicing machine, spice washing machine, driers etc, at a subsidized rate and also providing quality improvement training and extension advisory services to the stakeholders, aimed at better price realization for the growers and for improving the quality of turmeric for export. During FY 2020-21, the Board has organized two Quality Improvement training programs in Maharashtra in the turmeric growing areas.

The export of Turmeric from India has increased from Rs. 1035.67 crores to Rs. 1676.60 crores (estimated) from the year 2017-18 to 2020-21 an increase of 62 percent.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1688
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

LOGISTICS COST IN NER

1688. SHRI VINCENT H. PALA:

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken by the Government to improve the logistics cost in NER;
- (b) the details of the funds allocated and released under any such schemes to bring down the logistics cost in NER;
- (c) whether any study has been undertaken by the Ministry to assess the economic benefits in NER by reducing logistics cost; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b): The logistics ecosystem comprises of multiple activities & participants concerned with transportation, warehousing, inter modal transfers, services, policy and regulatory regime, skilling etc. Due to network effects, the impact on logistics efficiency and costs accrue not only from local but also from efficiency improvements works in other parts of the network.

The Government has approved PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan for multimodal connectivity infrastructure for various Economic Zones. Multiple infrastructure projects and process reforms have also been taken up across the country which have contributed towards logistics efficiency as have the following NER specific major initiatives:

Ministry for Development of North Eastern region under its various development schemes has sanctioned road and bridges projects of Rs 8487.39 crores (cost of projects completed : Rs 4083 Crores).

To improve the logistic cost in NER, NHIDCL (National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation) is developing Two Lanes/Four lane NHs. NHIDCL is

further constructing Multi Modal Logistic Park (MMLP) at Jogighopa and another at Silchar. The cumulative funds released to NHIDCL is Rs 35,166.01 Crores.

So far as railways is concerned, the total Budget allocation for Infrastructure projects & safety works, falling fully/ partly in North East Region in 2021-22 is Rs 6,913 Crores which is 226% more than the average of 2009-14 (Rs 2122 Cr/Yr.).

Railways also provided a 6% concession on transportation of traffic from and to the stations falling in the State of Assam and other North Eastern Region, with certain exceptions.

Inland Waterway Authority has developed Multi-Modal Terminal(MMT) with Rail connectivity at Pandu (Guwahati) on NW-2 (River Brahmaputra) at a total cost of Rs. 100.37 Crores, a permanent terminal at Dhubri on NW-2 at a cost of Rs 47.00 Crores. For strengthening connectivity of North- Eastern Region with Haldia & Kolkata Ports, under the Protocol on Inland Water Trade & Transit (PIWT&T) with Bangladesh, the number of Ports of Call in each country has been increased from 6 to 13, the number of protocol routes have been increased from 08 to 10 and a new route between Sonamura and Daudkandi on river Gumti, opened for providing Inland Water Transport (IWT) connectivity to Tripura.

Likewise, LPAI is also undertaking an array of initiatives for reducing logistics costs at its ICPs including full body truck scanners, Land Port Management System etc.. Further, financial assistance is provided to exporters @ Rs.2.00 per kilogram of tea exported through Inland Container Depot (ICD), Amingaon, Assam to offset the additional cost the exporters have to incur for haulage of empty containers from Kolkata/Haldia port to Amingaon. Moreover, The Central Sector Scheme – ‘Transport and Marketing Assistance for Specified Agriculture Products’ – for providing assistance for the international component of freight to mitigate the freight disadvantage for the export of agriculture products is also available for products from North east.

(c) & (d): While evaluation of logistics efficiency and addressing specific issues is carried out by ministry through interactions with stakeholders, surveys (like Logistics Ease Across Different States - LEADS survey) etc, no specific study to assess economic benefits in NER by reducing Logistics Costs has been undertaken by Ministry of Commerce & Industry.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1691
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

TEA PARK

1691. SHRI A. RAJA:

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

- (a) whether the Government would consider the proposal to establish Tea Parks with warehousing facilities in the States, especially in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the schemes and programmes in place or proposed by the Government for the development of tea production and export of premium tea to foreign countries?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b): No such proposal is under consideration at present for establishment of Tea Park. However, a modern warehouse is being established in Mettupalayam, Tamil Nadu under the aegis of Government of Tamil Nadu.

(c): The Central Government, through the Tea Board, is implementing the “Tea Development and Promotion Scheme (TDPS)” for promotion of the Tea Sector. The scheme, inter alia, includes activities for improvement in tea production, productivity, quality up-gradation, research, promotion of exports and value addition by providing financial and technical assistance to growers and other stakeholders of the tea industry. Besides, focused and sustained initiatives are taken up which, inter alia, include buyer-seller meets, participation in international trade fairs and brand promotion of Indian teas in international markets.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1703
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS

1703. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

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

- the exact number of Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) category-wise, that India currently has with countries/regions;
- the names of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) India currently has;
- whether there are instances of re-routing goods through the countries with which India has RTAs by certain countries;
- if so, the ways in which ministry is dealing with this issue; and
- the exact monetary value of trade carried out through RTAs in the last five years, year-wise?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b): India currently has 11 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)/Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) with other countries/regions. In addition, it has 6 limited coverage Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs). The details are as under:

(i) Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)

S.No.	Name of the Agreement
1	India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (FTA)
2	Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA)
3	India-Nepal Treaty of Trade
4	India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit
5	India-Thailand FTA - Early Harvest Scheme (EHS)
6	India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)

S.No.	Name of the Agreement
7	India-ASEANFTA
8	India-South Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)
9	India-Japan CEPA
10	India-Malaysia CECA
11	India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA)

(ii) Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs)

S.No.	Name of the Agreement
1	Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA)
2	Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP)
3	SAARC Preferential Trading Agreement (SAPTA)
4	India-Afghanistan PTA
5	India – MERCOSUR PTA
6	India – Chile PTA

(c) & (d): A few instances of re-routing of goods through the countries with which India has FTAs/RTAs have come to notice. To address this issue, Government has issued Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020 (CAROTAR, 2020) with effect from September 21, 2020 to supplement the procedures prescribed under different FTAs. These rules also cast responsibility on the importers to conduct due diligence for ensuring that the goods meet the prescribed rules of origin. The newly introduced provisions act as deterrent against misuse of trade agreements. In addition, an FTA monitoring committee has been constituted with representation from government departments, trade and industry bodies to identify issues relating to misuse of FTA provisions and recommend action.

(e): The value of India's trade with FTA/RTA partner countries in the last five years is as below:
(Figures in US \$ Million)

Export/Import	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
India's exports	59152.29	67576.95	73550.13	63515.49	63105.49
India's imports	65789.08	77692.17	93287.57	87327.72	74538.07

(Source: DGCIS)

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1708
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

GeM

1708. SHRI SELVAM G.:
SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI:
SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:
SHRI GAUTHAM SIGAMANI PON:
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:

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

- (a) the details of the salient features of the Government e-Marketplace (GeM);
- (b) whether the Government e-Marketplace organized National Public Procurement Conclave recently;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the theme of the conclave along with the discussions held and outcome of the conclave;
- (d) whether the GeM provides tools for direct purchase, bidding and reverse auction for ensuring transparent and efficient procurement;
- (e) if so, the details of direct purchase, bidding and reverse auction as on date along with the outcome, State-wise especially in Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra; and
- (f) the other steps taken by the Government to make it mandatory for all its departments to procure goods and services through e-market in the country?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): GeM is a platform which facilitates online procurement for various government buyers. With multiple procurement modes, inbuilt policies for automated market adjustments and end to end digital processes to enable vibrant buyer-seller engagement; GeM has evolved as an increasingly transparent, efficient and inclusive platform, with MSMEs making up over 56% of the cumulative Gross Merchandise Value on GeM. Few of the key features of GeM are mentioned at **Annexure-A**.

(b): Yes, Sir.

(c): The 5th edition of the Annual two day National Public Procurement Conclave [NPPC] 2021 was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry on 9th August, 2021 through the virtual CII-HIVES platform. The key features of the two day Conclave are mentioned at **Annexure-B**.

(d): Yes, Sir.

(e): Details including the State of Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra are mentioned at **Annexure-C**.

(f): Government of India has amended the Rule 149 of General Financial Rules (GFR) to stipulate that goods and services that are available on GeM should be mandatorily procured through GeM. Details are mentioned at **Annexure-D**

Some of the Salient features of GeM

- a) Rich listing of products for individual category of goods/services
- b) Direct purchase for amounts upto INR 25000 in line with GFR provisions
- c) L1 purchase for amounts greater than INR 25000 and less than INR 5 Lakhs in line with GFR provisions
- d) Facility for bidding and reverse auction for procurement
- e) Forward auction facility for selling of scrap etc.
- f) Proprietary Article Certificate Bid- Procurement of specific product as per requirement
- g) Price Trends and Price Comparison from Multiple Suppliers
- h) Direct notifications to sellers
- i) Integrated Payment System
- j) Interface to search, compare, select and buy
- k) Dashboard for sellers and buyers for monitoring entire procurement lifecycle
- l) Online incident and grievance redressal mechanism for quick resolution
- m) Integration with various agencies like GSTN, UIDAI, PAN, MCA, Udyam portal , Banks for authentications of personal details
- n) No charges or fee for getting registered as seller or buyer
- o) Special provisions and sections for startups, MSMEs and Emporium products
- p) Fully online, secured, paperless and contactless platform
- q) Easy access for sellers to participate in bids/reverse auction
- r) System for rating of buyers and sellers in place.
- s) Dynamic Pricing based on market conditions
- t) Direct access to Government departments and their organizations.

Key features of the National Public Procurement Conclave 2021

- a) Virtual panel discussion sessions were held on the role of GeM in public procurement during the COVID-19 pandemic, potential and challenges for Defence, Railways and CPSEs in public procurement, and the scope for under-served seller groups such as women and tribal entrepreneurs, MSEs, Startups, Artisans, Weavers, Divyanjan, and Hunarhaat craftsmen. 10,197 participants attended the conclave virtually.
- b) 986 virtual B2B and B2G meetings were held between GeM buyers and sellers,
- c) A virtual GeM stall was established to resolve queries on the spot and facilitate registration of sellers and buyers,
- d) 72 digital exhibitions of various products and services by sellers were held for 30 days
- e) The Conclave culminated with a prize distribution ceremony in which top 2 performing buyers and sellers were recognized and felicitated for leading their procurement efforts on GeM in 2020-21 based on their order volume and value.

Statewise details of direct purchase, bidding and reverse auction on GeM as on date

Overall	
Purchase Mode	Order Value in
Direct Purchase	3,77,41,99,85,707
Bidding	8,35,05,58,53,654
Reverse Auction	1,94,80,06,97,568

States/UTs				
S.No	State	Order Value in INR(BID)	Order Value in INR(RA)	Order Value in INR(DIRECT)
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	1,65,93,76,801	16,79,32,923	53,88,53,204
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	9,38,89,49,830	80,27,69,837	2,35,50,00,749
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	91,91,86,415	18,11,74,308	63,51,37,485
4	ASSAM	4,52,97,48,108	36,57,44,333	1,07,54,00,980
5	BIHAR	11,59,10,56,949	9,88,49,37,241	3,95,03,75,962
6	CHANDIGARH	11,47,07,95,538	61,55,14,674	1,62,10,16,552
7	CHHATTISGARH	7,26,81,41,601	41,99,40,262	10,54,31,87,951
8	DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI	4,03,38,779	3,98,306	24,48,20,096
9	DAMAN AND DIU	20,16,71,571	48,48,140	46,58,10,137
10	DELHI	23,07,83,66,972	1,98,54,95,393	15,11,13,96,208
11	GOA	14,73,42,202	2,07,31,413	24,80,60,788
12	GUJARAT	29,87,00,53,638	16,64,12,99,023	14,07,46,47,862
13	HARYANA	5,27,49,42,500	82,78,64,286	4,12,06,45,512
14	HIMACHAL PRADESH	1,52,82,34,087	54,70,05,698	2,15,38,72,208
15	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	5,80,50,00,958	2,81,10,15,917	8,97,40,14,279

16	JHARKHAND	4,94,57,19,992	1,00,29,14,081	4,46,41,77,605
17	KARNATAKA	6,80,11,75,148	73,70,80,521	3,87,91,36,721
18	KERALA	3,46,14,67,606	10,51,63,558	2,69,51,24,896
19	LADAKH	70,54,23,142	64,84,217	31,79,27,932
20	LAKSHADWEEP	13,57,17,069	-	16,72,85,688
21	MADHYA PRADESH	22,12,93,36,820	4,12,71,49,687	19,62,55,36,416
22	MAHARASHTRA	24,81,09,58,196	3,15,06,69,487	8,03,96,64,350
23	MANIPUR	1,42,12,85,163	18,63,740	37,64,42,152
24	MEGHALAYA	25,35,24,722	50,48,872	5,92,82,562
25	MIZORAM	7,64,69,448	3,71,047	7,41,41,707
26	NAGALAND	14,81,50,796	57,47,742	18,33,81,871
27	ORISSA	11,36,25,86,052	3,48,50,17,726	3,83,78,97,051
28	PUDUCHERRY	82,65,44,179	3,96,17,404	17,28,90,211
29	PUNJAB	7,49,30,92,935	4,92,44,61,083	3,04,49,59,018
30	RAJASTHAN	5,83,46,62,138	29,71,44,968	3,09,40,42,450
31	SIKKIM	5,01,20,231	1,29,992	22,03,87,817
32	TAMIL NADU	3,58,05,50,827	20,13,84,187	4,12,39,82,462
33	TELANGANA	2,16,13,21,070	9,73,60,149	4,70,09,65,457
34	TRIPURA	1,08,61,86,860	11,33,95,509	53,03,89,247
35	UTTAR PRADESH	95,48,07,05,322	7,36,32,28,079	50,45,54,96,637
36	UTTARAKHAND	2,84,82,46,586	13,87,13,610	2,83,82,15,116
37	WEST BENGAL	4,34,61,84,674	81,00,27,979	1,10,53,64,567

Annexure-D

1. As per GFR, GeM portal shall be utilized by Government buyers for direct on-line purchase as under: -

(i) Up to Rs.25,000/- through any of the available suppliers on GeM, meeting the requisite quality, specification and delivery period.

(ii) Above Rs.25,000/- and up to Rs.5,00,000/- through the GeM Seller having lowest price amongst the available sellers (excluding automobiles where current limit of Rs. 30 lakh will continue), of at least three different manufacturers, on GeM, meeting the requisite quality, specification and delivery period. The tools for online bidding and online reverse auction available on GeM can be used by the Buyers even for procurement less than Rs 5,00,000.

(iii) Above Rs. 5,00,000, through the supplier having lowest price meeting the requisite quality, specification and delivery period after mandatorily obtaining bids, using online bidding or reverse auction tool provided on GeM (excluding automobiles where current limit of Rs. 30 lakh will continue).

2. In addition, Cabinet Secretariat, Department of Public Enterprises and Administrative Ministries of the Government of India have issued a series of instructions from time to time advising Government departments, CPSEs and other Central Government organisations to make efforts to maximize procurement of goods and services from GeM.

3. All the State Governments and Union Territories (UTs) are also utilising GeM portal for making procurements. All states and UTs, except Sikkim, have executed MoUs with GeM for seamless procurement of Goods and Services required by them to fully realize the immense advantages accruing in terms of ease of procurement through an open and transparent procurement platform.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1709
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

TALKS WITH UAE

1709. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

- (a) whether the Minister of Commerce was on a visit to UAE recently;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the meeting;
- (c) whether any roadmap was chalked out for robust investment;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other issues discussed, which are bottlenecks in the trade between the two countries?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (e) : Yes. The Commerce and Industry Minister visited UAE from 1st - 3rd October, 2021. During the visit, the Minister inaugurated Indian Pavilion at World Expo 2020, Dubai on 1st October 2021 and co-chaired with His Highness Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Member of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in the 9th Meeting of the India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments on 2nd October, 2021. During the visit, a comprehensive dialogue was held between the two countries encompassing the entire gamut of bilateral commerce and economic relations with detailed discussions on new opportunities for trade and investment. Both the sides agreed to continue coordination and cooperation at the highest official levels for the early resolution of all the outstanding issues and exploring ways to facilitate investment in areas of mutual interest with potential for economic growth. The details of issues discussed and outcomes of the meeting have been stated in Joint Press Release after the conclusion of the meeting. Joint Press Release is enclosed at **Annexure**.

Ministry of Commerce & Industry

9th Meeting of the India-UAE High Level Joint Task Force on Investments

Posted On: 02 OCT 2021 6:54PM by PIB Delhi

His Highness Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed A1 Nahyan, Member of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, and Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, and Textiles, Government of India, co-chaired the ninth meeting of the UAE-India High Level Joint Task Force on Investments ('the Joint Task Force') today in Dubai. Senior officials representing relevant government authorities and various investment entities from both countries took part in the meeting.

The Joint Task Force was established in 2013 as a key forum for promoting economic ties between the UAE and India, which were further strengthened by the signing of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership Agreement between the two countries in January 2017 by Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed A1 Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

At this ninth meeting of the Joint Task Force, the two sides noted the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on global trade and investment and reiterated the importance of continuing to strengthen the deep economic ties between the two countries. Both sides recognised the collaboration between India and UAE during this difficult period and appreciated the leadership provided by the two countries in their regions to confront the pandemic.

The meeting reviewed the positive outcomes achieved through the work of the Joint Task Force to date, and the two sides agreed to continue exploring ways to facilitate investment in areas of mutual interest with the potential for economic growth.

The progress of ongoing discussions for the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, which will be a significant and wide-reaching step in promoting trade and investment between the two countries, was reviewed during the meeting. In this regard, both sides appreciated the efforts made to expedite discussions towards a well-balanced agreement that will considerably deepen bilateral economic ties and benefit the economies of both countries.

Participants also considered ongoing efforts to amend the UAE and India's longstanding Bilateral Investment Treaty and noted the importance of concluding the negotiation process as soon as possible.

At the meeting, discussions were also held on exploring mutually beneficial methods and incentives to facilitate further investment from UAE sovereign investment entities in key priority sectors in India. The positive steps made by the Indian government in this context were noted and both sides agreed to continue to focus on ways of providing tax incentives to certain UAE sovereign investment entities.

The importance of active involvement from the UAE Special Desk within Invest India, the National Investment Promotion Agency of India, in expediting the resolution of both legacy issues and current difficulties experienced by UAE companies and banks in India was discussed. The Indian side also

highlighted some long-standing issues faced by Indian investors in the UAE. Both sides agreed to continue coordination and cooperation at the highest official levels for the early resolution of these issues.

Given the importance of air transport in facilitating bilateral ties and people-to-people connections, both sides agreed that their respective civil aviation authorities should continue to work together on a priority basis, for their mutual benefit, to ensure the speedy normalisation of air transport operations between the two countries.

Commenting on the ninth meeting of the Joint Task Force, His Highness Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Co-Chair of the Joint Task Force and Member of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, said:

"India and the UAE share a broad and deep strategic partnership, and this has helped bilateral economic ties continue to strengthen despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Joint Task Force offers an important platform for dialogue between our two countries, raising new opportunities for trade and investment, and removing bottlenecks to further cooperation. Looking ahead, India and the UAE share ambitious goals to expand trade and investment activities between our countries, and the Joint Task Force will continue to play an important role in achieving these objectives."

Shri Piyush Goyal, Co-Chair of the Joint Task Force and Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, and Textiles, Government of India, said:

"India and UAE have longstanding ties which have become stronger in the recent times and our continued engagement even during the pandemic reflects the priority this partnership holds for both our nations. Our leadership accords a special place to our relationship with the UAE and our bilateral forums like the Joint Task Force provide effective mechanisms to build on our long-standing friendship. Given the strong growth prospects of the Indian economy, we look forward to increased investment from the UAE in diverse sectors of India. We are sure that the world will continue to witness greater achievements in the India-UAE partnership in the future."

DJN

(Release ID: 1760406)

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1712
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

1712. DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:

DR. HEENA GAVIT:

DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:

SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has ascertained the number of rural and agro industries being benefited from Special Economic Zones (SEZs) including the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) whether such industries in the SEZs have been able to generate adequate amount of revenue for the Government;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/Union Territory-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for better and strict implementation of safety standards in the said industries?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (d): Sir, 8 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) have been approved for the Agro and Food Processing sector in India. Out of these 8 SEZs, 7 have been notified and 3 SEZs are operational. Presently, there is no SEZ for Agro and Food Processing sector in Maharashtra. A statement showing the details of Agro and Food Processing SEZs in India is at **Annexure**. The State-wise revenue generated by Food and Agro Industry units in SEZs during the last two years and current year is given below:

(Rs. Crores)			
State-wise	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (Upto 30.09.2021)
Andhra Pradesh	7.80	14.41	5.12
Gujarat	21.94	41.32	25.65
Karnataka	6.93	19.64	7.06
Kerala	7.22	6.08	3.39
Madhya Pradesh	17.65	13.23	6.44
Maharashtra	0.02	0.01	0.05
Uttar Pradesh	0.02	0.01	0.01
West Bengal	0.17	0.01	0.31
Total	61.75	94.71	48.03

(e): The units in the SEZs are taking necessary safety standards as laid down in relevant Act/Rules.

Annexure to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1712 for 8th December, 2021

List of Agro and Food Processing SEZs in India				
Sl. No.	Name of the developer	Type of SEZ	Location	SEZ status
1	Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA)	Agro Based Food Processing	Malappuram District, Kerala	Operational
2	Parry Infrastructure Company Private Limited	Food Processing	Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh	Operational
3	CCCL Pearl City Food Port SEZ Ltd.	Food Processing	Tuticorin District, Tamil Nadu	Operational
4	Nagaland Industrial Development Corporation Limited	Agro and Food Processing	Demapur, Nagaland	Notified
5	Ansal Colours Engineering SEZ Limited	Agro and Food Processing Products	Sonepat, Haryana	Notified
6	CCL Products (India) Limited	Agro based Food Processing	Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh	Notified
7	Tripura Industrial Development Corporation Limited	Agro Based Food Processing	South Tripura District, Tripura	Notified
8	Akshaypatra Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Food Processing	Mehsana, Gujarat	Formal Approval

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1743
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

EXPORT FROM LABOUR INTENSIVE SECTOR

1743. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that growth in exports of labour- intensive products such as readymade garments, leather, and agriculture and allied products (rice, fruits and vegetables, meat, dairy, and poultry, and seafood) have slowed down after a transitory pickup in early 2021; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof, along with the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government to tackle this issue?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a):** The month-wise value of export of readymade garments (RMG) of all textiles, leather & leather products and agriculture and allied products namely rice, fruits & vegetables, meat, dairy & poultry products and marine products for months of January to October 2020 and January to October 2021 along with growth is at **Annexure-I**. There has been a positive growth in exports of these labour intensive products since February 2021 till October 2021 as compared to the same months of previous year.
- (b):** Government has taken several measures to boost exports such as:
- (i) Based on Mid-term Review of the FTP 2015-20 undertaken on 5th December, 2017, incentives for labour intensive / MSME sectors were increased.
 - (ii) Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) extended by one year i.e. upto 31-3-2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation.
 - (iii) A Farmer Connect Portal has been set up for providing a platform for farmers, Farmer-Producer Organizations (FPOs) and cooperatives to interact with exporters. Buyer-Seller Meets (BSMs) have been organized in the clusters to provide export-market linkages.

- (iv) Assistance provided through several schemes to promote exports, namely, Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES), Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme, export promotion schemes of Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Tea Board, Coffee Board and Spices Board.
- (v) A Central Sector Scheme –‘Transport and Marketing Assistance for Specified Agriculture Products’ – for providing assistance for the international component of freight to mitigate the freight disadvantage for the export of agriculture products.
- (vi) Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme and Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Scheme have been launched with effect from 01.01.2021.
- (vii) Promoting Districts as export hubs by identifying products with export potential in each district, addressing bottlenecks for exporting these products and supporting local exporters/manufacturers to generate employment in the district
- (viii) Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been launched to facilitate trade and increase FTA utilization by exporters.
- (ix) Active role of Indian missions abroad towards promoting our trade, tourism, technology and investment goals has been enhanced.
- (x) Package announced in light of the COVID-19 pandemic to support domestic industry through various banking and financial sector relief measures, especially for MSMEs, which constitute a major share in exports.

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question no. 1743 for answer on 8th December 2021.

Month-wise export of labour intensive products and its growth rate from January to October 2020 and January to October 2021

(Value in US\$ Million)

Commodities	RMG of all Textiles	Leather & leather products	Rice	Fruits & Vegetables	Meat, dairy & poultry products	Marine Products	Overall
Jan, 20	1451.4	406.9	598.8	181.6	324.1	431.8	2962.8
Jan, 21	1295.7	331.2	756.5	225.8	298.1	424.4	2907.3
% Change	-10.7	-18.6	26.3	24.3	-8.0	-1.7	-1.9
Feb, 20	1474.4	381.3	698.7	289.7	243.4	441.1	3087.5
Feb, 21	1349.1	298.9	913.7	280.0	307.7	440.1	3149.4
% Change	-8.5	-21.6	30.8	-3.3	26.4	-0.2	2.0
Mar, 20	1118.0	260.8	668.2	303.3	225.6	393.6	2575.8
Mar, 21	1425.6	317.8	1114.3	376.0	344.7	554.3	3578.2
% Change	27.5	21.9	66.8	24.0	52.8	40.8	38.9
Apr, 20	126.3	22.3	548.0	203.3	138.8	264.5	1038.6
Apr, 21	1297.3	289.6	885.7	254.9	345.3	549.9	3072.8
% Change	927.1	1201.4	61.6	25.4	148.8	107.9	195.9
May, 20	516.6	106.3	685.2	191.5	141.1	429.9	1640.6
May, 21	1106.7	271.1	771.8	177.9	347.6	574.3	2675.0
% Change	114.2	155.1	12.6	-7.1	146.5	33.6	63.1
Jun, 20	803.4	244.9	681.3	189.8	203.7	482.8	2123.0
Jun, 21	1001.6	325.0	741.3	205.4	329.6	645.7	2602.9
% Change	24.7	32.7	8.8	8.3	61.8	33.7	22.6
Jul, 20	1063.2	333.0	759.4	214.9	376.9	475.0	2747.3
Jul, 21	1388.4	387.8	704.4	216.7	256.4	701.5	2953.5
% Change	30.6	16.5	-7.3	0.8	-32.0	47.7	7.5
Aug, 20	1083.9	356.2	663.1	196.0	324.7	455.6	2623.8
Aug, 21	1236.9	385.9	716.6	219.9	274.9	686.6	2834.1
% Change	14.1	8.3	8.1	12.2	-15.4	50.7	8.0
Sept, 20	1190.1	358.4	725.1	191.8	390.7	602.1	2856.2
Sept, 21	1300.4	385.0	770.3	234.7	348.9	678.4	3039.1
% Change	9.3	7.4	6.2	22.3	-10.7	12.7	6.4
Oct, 20	1177.3	320.8	685.4	165.6	401.8	684.1	2750.9
Oct, 21	1253.1	371.0	688.9	224.6	383.7	807.8	2921.3
% Change	6.4	15.7	0.5	35.7	-4.5	18.1	6.2

Source: DGCI&S, Data are provisional for year 2021

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1754
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

WELFARE OF TEA GARDEN WORKERS

1754. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

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

- (a) the details of various schemes for the welfare of tea garden workers run by the Tea Board of India;
- (b) the details of funds sanctioned towards the welfare of tea garden workers of North Bengal region by the Tea Board of India in the last five years;
- (c) the details of the subsidies provided to the tea gardens of the North Bengal region through the Tea Board of India for the last five years; and
- (d) whether there is any delay in the release of the subsidy to the tea gardens of North Bengal and if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Tea Board has implemented certain welfare activities under Human Resource Development (HRD) component of the “Tea Development and Promotion Scheme” during the Medium Term Framework period from 2017-18 to 2019-20 and extended till 2020-21, aimed at improving the health and hygiene of workers, education of wards of workers and imparting training to improve skills for growers/workers.

The “Tea Development & Promotion Scheme” has been approved for implementation by Tea Board during the 15th Finance Commission period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 which has a component for the welfare of small Tea growers and their workers.

(b): Financial assistance of Rs.9.04 crore has been provided by the Tea Board under the HRD component towards the welfare of tea garden workers and their wards/ dependents in North Bengal during the last five years and current year [2016-17 till 2021-22(up to Nov, 21)].

(c) & (d) : The Tea Board disburses subsidy to the eligible tea stakeholders as per budget provisions. Financial assistance of Rs.117.14 crore has been provided by the Tea Board under the “Tea Development and Promotion Scheme” to the tea gardens of North Bengal during the last five years and current year [2016-17 till 2021-22(upto Nov, 21)].

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1772
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

PRODUCTION OF NATURAL RUBBER

1772. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

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

- the State-wise details of production of natural rubber in India, year-wise for the last four years;
- the export and import trends of India's natural rubber for the last four years and the estimates of market size of natural rubber in India;
- whether the market of natural rubber is expected to grow in the coming years and if so, the details therefor along with the details of largest consumers of rubber in India;
- whether India's natural rubber production is likely to fall sharply due to heavy rains this year;
- if so, the details thereof along with its impact on import of rubber; and
- whether the Government is going to tackle this issue of low production of natural rubber due to heavy rains and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): The state-wise details of production of natural rubber in India, year-wise for the last four years are as under:

State-wise production of natural rubber (Tonne)				
State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Kerala	540775	492500	533500	519500
Tamil Nadu	21110	21500	21600	19710
Tripura	50500	52300	61950	73780
Assam	23300	25200	30350	34130

State-wise production of natural rubber (Tonne)				
State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Meghalaya	9050	9300	9350	9540
Karnataka	38300	38900	41550	43860
Other states	10965	11300	13700	14480
Total	694000	651000	712000	715000

(Source: Rubber Board)

(b): The export & import trends of India's natural rubber and estimate of market size of the industry as indicated by consumption of natural rubber for the last four years are as under:

Export, Import and Consumption of natural rubber (Tonne)				
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Export	5072	4551	12872	11343
Import	469760	582351	457223	410478
Consumption	1112210	1211940	1134120	1096410

(Source: Rubber Board)

(c): The market of natural rubber is expected to grow in the coming years. The expected natural rubber consumption for the year 2021-22 is 12,40,000 tonnes. The largest consumer of rubber is tyre sector. The details are as under:

Consumption of natural rubber (Tonne)				
	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Tyre	772162	864022	756265	780588
Non-tyre	340048	347918	377855	315822
Total	1112210	1211940	1134120	1096410

(Source: Rubber Board)

(d) to (f): No sharp fall in natural rubber production is envisaged due to heavy rain this year. However, as a proactive initiative, Government through Rubber Board, is promoting rain-guarding in rubber plantations for uninterrupted tapping on rainy days.

The import of natural rubber during 2021-22 is projected at 420,000 tonnes.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1789
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

EXPORT OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

1789. DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that an increase in the export of medical equipments and medicines from the country has been registered during COVID period; and
- (b) if so, the increase in exports as compared to that during pre-COVID period and the amount of foreign exchange earned through these exports by the country?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Exports of medical equipment and pharmaceuticals registered a growth of 10% and 18.19% respectively, during Covid period (i.e. 2020-21) vis-à-vis the previous year (2019-20), as per details given below:

India's Medical Equipment and Pharmaceuticals Exports (in US\$ million)			
Category	2019-20	2020-21	Growth
Medical Equipment (Consumer Durables, Electronics equipment, Implants, IVD Reagents, Surgical Instruments)	2292.87	2532.16	10%
Pharmaceuticals (Ayush & Herbals, Bulk Drugs & Drug Intermediates, Drug Formulations & Biologicals, Surgical)	20703.46	24469.23	18.19%

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1790 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

TRADE WITH BHUTAN

1790(H). SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government and the Government of Bhutan are contemplating to open seven more trade entry and exit gates under an agreement;
- (b) if so, the details of locations where all these gates are to be opened along with its benefits to the traders and industrialists of our country;
- (c) whether there is any possible impact on India's trade with Bhutan due to the increasing influence of China; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) & (b): The opening of entry and exit points at India-Bhutan border is bilaterally agreed under the Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit between India and Bhutan. Recently, during a bilateral meeting, a Letter of Exchange to include the following seven additional entry/exit points to the Protocol of the India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit was signed for formalising trade between the two countries through these entry/exit points:
- i. Nagarkata (West Bengal) Land Customs Station without commodity restrictions.
 - ii. Agartala (Tripura) Land Customs Station as an entry /exit point.
 - iii. Pandu port (Guwahati Steamerghat, Assam) as an entry /exit point, subject to cross border control at Dhubri.
 - iv. Jogighopa port (Assam) as an entry/exit point, subject to cross border control at Dhubri.
 - v. Asian Highway 48 connecting Torsha Tea Garden (West Bengal) in India and Ahllay in Bhutan as an additional route corresponding to the Land Custom Station at Jaigaon.
 - vi. Kamardwisa (Assam) as an entry/exit point.
 - vii. Birpara (West Bengal) as an entry/exit point.

This forms an addendum to the Protocol of 2016 India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit and facilitate India-Bhutan bilateral trade to our mutual advantage.

(c) & (d): India and Bhutan share unique and exemplary ties of friendship and cooperation, built on shared values and interests, trust, mutual respect and close understanding. The bilateral trade between India and Bhutan has more than doubled in last seven years.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1819
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th DECEMBER, 2021

EXPORT TURNOVER

1819. SHRI VELUSAMY P.:

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

- the total merchant export turnover during the last three years and the current year;
- whether the Government is having any data on default payment on exports;
- if so, the accumulated amount outstanding with the various financial institutions till date;
- the total amount settled by the ECGC (Export Credit Guarantee Corporation) till date to various default payments to banks;
- whether the Government is having any proposal to infuse capital to support ECGC; and
- if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

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

Years	Value of Merchandise export (US\$ Billion)
2018-19	330.08
2019-20	313.36
2020-21	291.81
2020-21 (Apr-Nov)	174.46
2021-22 (Apr-Nov)*	263.42

Source: DGCI&S. * Provisional

(b) & (c): The accumulated amount of payments on export of goods and services outstanding with the various financial institutions as on 2nd December 2021 as provided by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is as follows:

(Value in Rs Crore)		
Outstanding export invoice amount for less than 9 months	Outstanding export invoice amount for more than 9 months	Outstanding export invoice amount for more than 15 months
14,91,747	13,54,134	9,90,342

Source: RBI

(d): The total amount settled by Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) on various default payments to banks under Export Credit Insurance Cover for Banks (ECIB) from 2016-17 to 2020-21 and April-September 2021-22 are as follows:

Years	Claim settled (₹ in Crore)
2016-17	655.50
2017-18	1131.47
2018-19	813.39
2019-20	261.64
2020-21	761.87
2021-22 (Apr-Sept)	79.52

(e) & (f): Government has approved proposal for capital infusion of Rs. 4,400 crore to ECGC Ltd. for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26 to support additional exports of Rs. 5.28 lakh crore over a five year period.
