LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 183 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

EXPORT SUBSIDIES ON PULSES

183. SHRI DHARMENDRA KASHYAP:

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

- (a) whether the Government intends to offer export subsidies to pulse traders in the country given the low domestic prices of pulses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to ensure that the cost of imported pulses remains at or above par with MSPs;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government intends to review its open Import Policy of tur and urad pulses; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and 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): There is no proposal at this stage to offer export subsidies to pulse traders.
- (c) to (f): The Government formulates import policy of pulses on the basis of close and continuous monitoring of domestic production, availability and price scenario including landed cost of imported stocks.

The Government has kept import of tur and urad under 'Free' category till March, 31, 2023 after carefully analyzing production, availability, prices and market conditions to protect the interest of domestic farmers while ensuring adequate availability at reasonable prices for all consumers across the Country.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 186 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

AGRICULTURE EXPORT POLICY

186. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

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

- (a) whether the Government subscribes to the view that the solution to the economic distress of Indian farmers is through a stable and predictable Agriculture Export Policy which aims at reinvigorating the entire value chain from export-oriented farm production and processing to transportation, infrastructure and global market access;
- (b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ramp up exports in the agricultural sector and thus enable farmers for the global market; 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): The Government is aware of the importance of agriculture exports for improving incomes of the Indian farmers and hence had introduced a comprehensive Agriculture Export Policy in 2018. Objectives of the Agriculture Export Policy are as under:
 - I. To diversify our export basket, destinations and boost high-value and value-added agricultural exports including focus on perishables.
 - II. To promote novel, indigenous, organic, ethnic, traditional and non-traditional agri products exports.
- III. To provide an institutional mechanism for pursuing market access, tackling barriers and deal with sanitary and phytosanitary issues.
- IV. To strive to double India's share in world agri exports by integrating with global value chain at the earliest.
- V. Enable farmers to get benefit of export opportunities in overseas market

(b): Promotion of exports of agriculture products is a continuous process. The Government has taken several steps at State/ District levels to promote exports. State specific Action Plans have been prepared and State Level Monitoring Committees (SLMCs), Nodal Agencies for agricultural exports and Cluster Level Committees have been formed in a number of States. Country and product-specific action plans have also been formulated to promote exports. It has also been decided that the District as Export Hub Initiative of the Department of Commerce would be utilized to achieve the objectives of Agriculture Export Policy.

A Farmer Connect Portal has been developed 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. Regular interactions, through video conferences, have been held with the Indian Missions abroad, to assess and tap export opportunities. Country specific BSMs, through Indian Missions, have also been organized.

The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organisation under the administrative control of Department of Commerce, has the mandate to promote exports of agricultural and processed food products. APEDA has been providing assistance to the exporters under various components of its Export Promotion Scheme.

The Department of Commerce provides financial assistance to promote exports, including exports of agricultural products through Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme, Export Promotion Schemes of APEDA and Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) etc.

(c): Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 05 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

SPICE PARKS

*5. SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR: SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**(वाणिज्यएवंउद्योगमंत्री)be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of spice parks set up by the Government in the country including the States of Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up more such parks in the States to empower the farmers producing spices by having better price realization and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any facilities have been provided for local farmers, traders, exporters and other stakeholders for processing their products in these spice parks;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the job opportunities generated from the said parks;
- (e) whether the Government and the States are sharing the expenditure in setting up of these parks; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the total amount spent by the Government on these parks along with the funds earmarked for the same and the number of proposals pending with the Government for setting up of such parks along with its present status?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERREDTO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 05 FOR ANSWER ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022 REGARDING "SPICE PARKS".

(a)& (b): Spices Board has established eight crop specific Spices Parks across the country. The details of spices parks are as below:

Name of the Spices Park	State	Spices covered
Chhindwara	Madhya Pradesh	Garlic and Chilli
Guna	Madhya Pradesh	Coriander
Guntur	Andhra Pradesh	Chillies
Jodhpur	Rajasthan	Cumin
Ramganjmandi	Rajasthan	Coriander
Puttady	Kerala	Cardamom and Pepper
Raebareli	Uttar Pradesh	Mint
Sivaganga	Tamil Nadu	Chillies and Turmeric

At present, there are no proposals pending for setting up of additional spices parks.

(c) & (d): The objective of the spices park is to set up common processing and value addition facilities including cleaning, sorting, grading, grinding, oil extraction and packaging of spices for use by the local farmers, traders, exporters and other stakeholders. In addition, plots have also been allotted in the Spices Parks at Guna, Jodhpur, Ramganjmandi, Guntur, Raebareli and Sivaganga to the exporters, traders and farmer producer organization for establishment of their own spices processing units. The spice parks are providing large number of job opportunities, both direct and indirect. The details of processing facilities available in the spices parks are as below:

Name of the Spices Park	Details of processing facilities
Chhindwara	Garlic drying / dehydration and chilli extraction
Guna	Cleaning, grading, colour sorting, grinding, packaging facilities for Seed spices particularly coriander
Guntur	Cleaning, sorting, grinding and packaging facilities for Chillies
Jodhpur	Cleaning, grading, colour sorting, grinding, packaging facilities for Seed spices particularly cumin
Ramganjmandi	Cleaning, grading, colour sorting, grinding, packaging facilities for Seed spices particularly coriander
Puttady	Cleaning, grading, grinding, packaging facilities for cardamom and pepper
Raebareli	Oil extraction facilities for Mint and other herbs
Sivaganga	Cleaning, grading, colour sorting, grinding, packaging facilities for chillies and turmeric

(e) & (f): Spices Parks have been established by Spices Board with financial assistance from the Government of India under the scheme of Assistance to States for Infrastructure Development of Exports (ASIDE). Further, State Government of Andhra Pradesh has contributed for the establishment of Guntur spices park financially. Following the discontinuation of ASIDE scheme, Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) is under implementation by Department of Commerce in which assistance is provided in the form of grant-in-aid upto the matching equity put in by the implementing agency in the total project cost (upto 80% of the total equity for projects located in North Eastern and Himalayan States/UTs and upto 50% of the total equity for other states/UTs) for setting up or up-grading export infrastructure including spice park. In addition, the States with relative poor export infrastructure, lacking institutional capacity for preparing good Detailed Project Reports but have positive potential, this grant can be upto 80% of the total equity.

The details of funding source for spices parks has been tabulated below:

Spices park	Funds Spent	Funding source(₹. Crore)
	(₹. Crore)	
Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh	20.50	ASIDE scheme : 19.80
		Plan scheme of Spices Board : 0.70
Puttady, Kerala	27.37	Plan scheme of Spices Board : 27.37
Jodhpur, Rajasthan	30.72	Plan scheme of Spices Board : 30.72
Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu	23.80	Plan scheme of Spices Board : 23.80
Guna, Madhya Pradesh	40.02	ASIDE scheme : 25.00
		Plan scheme of Spices Board : 15.02
Guntur, Andhra Pradesh	19.50	Plan scheme of Spices Board : 7.90
		Government of Andhra Pradesh: 11.60
Ramganjmandi (Kota),	16.86	ASIDE scheme : 10.00
Rajasthan		Plan scheme of Spices Board : 6.86
Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh	17.43	ASIDE scheme : 15.00
		Plan scheme of Spices Board : 2.43

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 32 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

ITPO

32. SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:

MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:

SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:

SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE SHARMA:

SHRI RAMESH CHANDER KAUSHIK:

SHRIMATI GEETA KORA:

SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:

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

- (a) the details of the steps taken by the India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) to promote domestic business and international trade fairs;
- (b) the extent to which physical infrastructure and management of services in business activities are being developed; and
- (c) the details of the action plan of the units of economic zones to create economic activities, development of export and services, promotion of investment from domestic sources as well as the development of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) to increase the employment opportunities?

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): Following are details of the steps taken by the ITPO to promote domestic businesses and International Trade:

- (i). Managing the extensive trade fair complex, Pragati Maidan and organising various trade fairs and exhibitions at its exhibition complex in Pragati Maidan and other centers in India.
- (ii). Facilitating the use of Pragati Maidan for holding of trade fairs and exhibitions by other fair organisers both from India and abroad.
- (iii). Establishing durable contacts between Indian suppliers and overseas buyers.
- (iv). Assisting Indian companies in product development and adaptation to meet buyers' requirements.
- (v). Organising Buyer-Seller Meets and other exclusive India shows with a view to bringing buyers and sellers together.
- (vi). Participating in overseas trade fairs and exhibitions.
- (vii). Arranging product displays for visiting overseas buyers.
- (viii). Organising seminars/conferences/workshops on trade-related subjects
- (ix). Encouraging small and medium scale units in export promotion efforts.
- (x). Enlisting the involvement and support of the State Governments in India for promotion of India's foreign trade.
- (b): ITPO is implementing its mega project i.e. redevelopment of Pragati Maidan complex into world class Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre. International Exhibition and Convention Centre (IECC) project includes 7 Exhibition Halls and the Convention Centre. Out of these 7 Exhibition Halls, four new exhibition halls (Exhibition Halls 2, 3, 4 & 5) comprising approx. exhibition area of 72,000 sqm have been made operational. These new exhibition halls host events and exhibitions with significant representation from MSME sector and thereby promote trade and enhance income levels of those associated with the MSME sector. ITPO's flagship events such as India International Trade Fair (IITF) and Aahar- The International Food & Hospitality Fair were also held in these new exhibition halls. Most of the national trade events will be held in this new exhibition complex, which would provide speed (Gati) to the growth of MICE sector in the country.
- (c): Special Economic Zones are being setup with the following objectives, viz. Generation of additional economic activity; Promotion of exports of goods and services; Promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources; creation of employment opportunities and Development of infrastructure facilities. Further, review of SEZ policy is an on-going process and

on the basis of inputs / suggestions received from stakeholders on the policy and operational framework of the SEZs, Government periodically takes necessary measures for facilitating smooth and effective implementation of the SEZ Act/Rules.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 03 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

EXPORT OF BROKEN RICE

03. SHRIMATI KAVITHA MALOTHU: DR. G. RANJITH REDDY: SHRI VENKATESH NETHA BORLAKUNTA:

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

- (a) whether it is not true that there has been a huge demand for broken rice in the international market due to geo-political reasons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also not true that export of broken rice has increased by more than 40 times in the last four years and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether 21.03 lakh tonnes of broken rice was exported between April-August, 2022; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for banning broken rice exports from 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. There has been sudden increase in demand for Indian broken rice in the international market due to geo-political reasons. India's exports of broken rice have increased from 17.86 Lakh MT in 2021-22(April- September) to 23.82 Lakh MT in 2022-23 (April September) registering a growth of 33.37%.
- (c): No Sir. The export of broken rice from India has increased about three times in the last four years i.e from 12.21 Lakh MT in 2018-19 to 38.90 Lakh MT in 2021-22 in volume and in value terms i.e USD 369.58 Million in 2018-19 to USD 1132.94 Million in 2021-22. However,

export of broken rice witnessed a decline in 2019-20 due to the pandemic and domestic policies of major importing countries in Africa. The details are given in the Table below: -

Year	Quantity in MT	Value in Million USD
2018-19	12,21,617	369.58
2019-20	2,70,338	82.48
2020-21	20,64,562	595.69
2021-22	38,90,866	1132.94
2021-22	17,86,435	516.89
(April-September)		
2022-23 *	23,81,657	764.81
(April-September)		

Source: DGCIS, Kolkata.

- (d): A total of 21.64 Lakh MT of broken rice was exported from India during the period between April-August in 2022.
- (e): Broken rice is majorly used for ethanol production and as poultry & cattle feed. As evident from Table at Para-(c) above, there has been sudden rise in demand for Indian broken rice due to geo-political situation around. Further, as per the first Advance Estimates for 2022-23,released by Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, the production of rice is estimated to be lower than the target fixed for the current year. Therefore, in order to ensure adequate availability of broken rice in domestic market,the Government has prohibited export of broken rice w.e.f 9thSeptember, 2022.

^{*} Figures for 2022-23 are provisional and subject to change.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 23 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF CHILLI

23. SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI:

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

- (a) the total chilli production and exports in the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to establish a separate Chilli Board to bolster India's position as the top chilli producer and exporter;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has undertaken any efforts to address the problems faced by chilli industry; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and 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): The total chilli production and exports in the last three years has been given below:

EXPORT AND PRODUCTION OF CHILLIES FROM INDIA							
		Export					
YEAR	QTY (MT)	VALUE (RS.LAKHS)	QTY(MT)				
2018-19	468500	541117.50	1515560				
2019-20	496000	671039.53	1841800				

2020-21	649815	924126.56	2049213			
2021-22(est)	557168	858188.59	1866108			
Source (Production): State Agri/Horti Departments/DASD Kozhikode						
(est): Estimate;						
SOURCE: (Export: DGCI&S, CALCUTTA/SHIPPING BILLS/EXPORTERS' RETURNS.						

(b) & (c): The mandate for production, research, development and domestic marketing of Chilli is vested with Union Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. Spices Board has the mandate for export promotion of spices including chilli. Under this, Spices Board is undertaking activities for post-harvest improvement, building market linkages and export promotion of spices including chilli. Currently, the aspects of production, quality management and export promotion of chilli are covered by Union Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare and Spices Board.

(d) & (e): The Export Development & Promotion component of Spices Board's scheme titled 'Integrated Scheme for Export Promotion & Quality Improvement in Spices and Research & Development of Cardamom' aims at promotion of spices including chilli international markets, supporting exporters for infrastructure development, value addition, trade promotion etc. Besides, Government of India through Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare implements various development programmes for the development of chilli in the country under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) through respective State Horticulture Missions (SHM). The mission programmes are aimed at increasing production, productivity and quality of the produce to meet the growing demand in the domestic as well as export market.

In addition to this, various other steps have been implemented by Spices Board to support chilli industry like establishment of spices parks for processing, value addition and storage of spices including chilli; constitution of Chilli Task Force Committee; organizing training programs for stakeholders of chilli aimed at quality improvement and entrepreneurship development; quality evaluation of export consignments of chilli through quality evaluation laboratories to ensure compliance with quality specifications of importing countries.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 36 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

IMPORT-EXPORT AND TRADE SURPLUS

36. SHRI C.R. PATIL:

SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI:

SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:

SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

DR. RAMAPATI RAM TRIPATHI:

SHRI SANGAM LAL GUPTA:

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

- (a) the details of India's total import-export and trade surplus during the last five years;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated an Action Plan to enhance India's trade surplus; and
- (c) 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 details of India's overall export (merchandise plus services), import and trade balance in the last five years and current year are as follows:

Year	Export (Value in US\$ Billions)	Import (Value in US\$ Billions)
2016-17	440.05	480.21
2017-18	498.62	583.11
2018-19	538.08	640.09
2019-20	526.55	602.98
2020-21	497.90	511.12
2021-22	676.53	760.06

Source: RBI and DGCI&S, Kolkata.

- (b) & (c): The Government has taken the following measures to enhance India's export and trade balance:
- (i) Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) extended by 31-03-2023.
- (ii) Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit has also been extended upto 31-03-2024.
- (iii) Assistance provided through several schemes to promote exports, namely, Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) and Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme.
- (iv) Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Scheme to promote labour oriented textile export has been implemented since 07.03.2019.
- (v) Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme has been implemented since 01.01.2021.
- (vi) Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been launched to facilitate trade and increase Free Trade Agreement (FTA) utilization by exporters.
- (vii) 12 Champion Services Sectors have been identified for promoting and diversifying services exports by pursuing specific action plans.
- (viii) Districts as Export Hubs has been launched 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.
 - (ix) Active role of Indian missions abroad towards promoting India's trade, tourism, technology and investment goals has been enhanced.
 - (x) Package announced in light of the COVID pandemic to support domestic industry through various banking and financial sector relief measures, especially for MSMEs, which constitute a major share in exports.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 61 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

EXPORT OF AUTOMOBILES

61. SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:

SHRI RAVI KISHAN:

SHRI RAVINDRA KUSHWAHA:

SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:

SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:

SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:

SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:

SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:

SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:

SHRI MANOJ TIWARI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of a fall in export of automobiles, particularly cars during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the same;
- (c) the quantum of automobiles including cars exported from the country during each of the last three years and the current year, automobile-wise;
- (d) the challenges faced by the Government in boosting export of automobiles from the country;
- (e) whether the Government has extended any incentives to the exporters for enhancing exports of automobiles and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost the export of automobiles?

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): India's export of automobiles including cars during the last three years and current year are given below:

(Number of Vehicle)

Category	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Passenger Cars	4,75,801	2,64,907	3,74,986
Utility Vehicles	1,83,468	1,37,842	2,01,036
Vans	2,849	1,648	1,853
Total Passenger Vehicles	6,62,118	4,04,397	5,77,875
M&HCVs	22,333	17,548	32,181
LCVs	38,046	32,786	60,116
Total Commercial Vehicles	60,379	50,334	92,297
Three Wheelers	5,01,651	3,93,001	4,99,730
Scooters	3,69,998	2,32,020	3,50,330
Motorcycles	31,35,548	30,42,453	40,82,442
Mopeds	13,859	8,313	10,246
Total Two Wheelers	35,19,405	32,82,786	44,43,018
Quadricycle	5,185	3,529	4,326
Grand Total	47,48,738	41,34,047	56,17,246

(Source: SIAM)

The data in the above table reveals that export of total number of automobiles increased from 41,34,047 in 2020-21 to 56,17,246 in 2021-22, registering a positive growth of 35.9%. Out of this, export of Passenger vehicles including cars increased from 4,04,397 in 2020-21 to 5,77,875 in 2021-22, registering a positive growth of 42.9%.

- (d): In view of the supply disruptions post Covid and Ukraine- Russia conflict there was a shortage of chips/ semi- conductor.
- (e) & (f): Government of India has been taking various proactive measures to boost export of automobiles, which include:
 - (i) Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) has been extended upto 31-03-2023 in view of the Covid-19 pandemic situation.
 - (ii) Various schemes like Advance Authorisation, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Remission of Duties and Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) etc have been provided.

- (iii) Active role of Indian Missions abroad towards promoting India's exports have been enhanced and access to NIRYAT portal for export monitoring has been provided.
- (iv) RBI has decided to set up additional arrangement for invoicing, payment, and trade settlement in Indian Rupees.
- (v) Government of India has recently signed Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) including trade agreements with UAE and Australia to get favourable market access for the automobile industry among others.
- (vi) Government of India has approved Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Automobile and Auto Component Industry with budgetary outlay of Rs 25,938 crore over the period of five years.
- (vii) Government has notified various regulations from time to time to harmonize Indian motor vehicle standards with global standards.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 62(H) TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

CSR FUND

62(H). SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE: SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

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

- (a) whether various undertakings under the Ministry have allocated funds under the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) during the last three years and till date;
- (b) if so, the undertaking-wise details of expenditure incurred under various heads particularly in tribal dominated areas along with the names of the districts during the said period and place-wise number of beneficiaries benefited under the scheme;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take effective steps for the expenditure of the funds under CSR in the country particularly in backward and Scheduled Tribe dominated areas;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has covered or proposes to cover Scheduled Tribe dominated areas particularly Gadchiroli Parliamentary Constituency in Maharashtra and Misrikh Parliamentary Constituency in Uttar Pradesh under the said scheme; and
- (e) 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): Yes Sir, the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) under the Ministry have been allocating funds for taking up projects under the framework for Corporate Social Responsibility(CSR), as per the guidelines of Department of Public Enterprises and the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.

- (b): The details of total CSR funds allocated and spent on projects head-wise and location-wise during the last three years and current year by CPSUs under the Ministry may be seen at Annexure-I. The place-wise data on number of beneficiaries is difficult to compile for projects like common public utilities, contributions to public welfare funds etc. The funds to be spent under CSR are as per guidelines of Department of Public Enterprises and the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.
- (c) to (e): The thrust of CSR spending under many projects is for upliftment of marginalized and under-privileged sections of society, including backward and scheduled caste/tribe dominated areas of the country. As per CSR provisions in Section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013 ('Act') and Companies (CSR Policy) Rules, 2014 notified thereunder, the management of CPSUs may decide to undertake CSR activities, as per the eligible activities listed in Schedule-VII of the Act, in any part of the country, including for education, socio-economic development and relief and welfare of Scheduled Caste, Backward and tribe dominated areas etc. Department of Public Enterprises has issued guidelines to all administrative Ministries and CPSUs for adopting a theme based focused approach every year on CSR expenditure by the CPSUs. These instructions, inter-alia, provide that CSR expenditure for each thematic programme should be around 60% of annual CSR expenditure of CPSUs and the aspirational districts identified by NITI Aayog may be given preference.

Sl. No	Name of CPSU	CRS exper		Financial	Year (In	States covered	Main sectors under which CSR amount spent
		2019-20	2020- 21	2021- 22	2022-23		
i)	MMTC Ltd.	176.81**	Nil*	Nil*	Nil*	Rajasthan, UP, Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Delhi	Healthcare, Swachh Bharat, Clean Ganga, Skill Development, Social Welfare
	e: In the year 2 RES Fund to he				•		2,82,546/- towards PM
ii)	State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC Ltd.)	1.40***	Nil*	Nil*	Nil*	Pan India	PM CARES Fund
iii)	PEC Ltd.	Nil*	Nil*	25.42	Nil*	Not Applicable	Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF)
Note Min	e: The unspenister's National	`					n transferred to "Prime
iv)	India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO)	293.15	Nil****	731.11	-	Pan India, Odisha, Haryana, New Delhi and Aspirational Districts	PM CARES Fund, Swachh Bharat, Education, Clean Ganga, Healthcare. Art and Culture.
v)	Karnataka Trade Promotion Organisation (KTPO)	12.00	34.	40	-	Karnataka	Healthcare, Education.

vi)	Tamilnadu	60.79	10.00	Nil	Nil	Pan India and	Swachh Bharat, Clean
	Trade					Tamil Nadu	Ganga, Social Welfare
	Promotion						and Development of
	Organisation						Aspirational Districts
	(TNTPO)						

Note: For 2021-22:- In accordance with the Sub section 6 of the section 135 of the Companies Act, 2013, TNTPO have opened a separate bank account in the name of "TNTPO-Unspent Corporate Social Responsibility Account" in India Bank, Valasarawakkam Branch, Chennai by depositing an amount of Rs. 51.59 lakhs.

For:- 2022-23:- The provisions for the CSR fund for the year 2022-23 will be earmarked during the month of Jan-2023

vii)	STCL Ltd.	Nil*	Nil*	Nil*	Nil*	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
viii)	ECGC Ltd.	1182.51	725.26	859.69	153.06 (Ongoing Projects)	Pan India	Education, Healthcare, Social Welfare, Sanitation, Skill Development, Solar Energy, PM CARES FUND, Swatchh Bharat, Clean Ganga, Women Empowerment.
ix)	National Industrial Corridor Developme nt Corporation (NICDC) Limited	11.77	11.97	18.58	Nil	Pan India	Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF)

Note: For 2022-23 - The projects on which CSR allocated funds are to be spent have not been identified yet.

x)	India	5.98	9.41	12.14	-	Pan India	Swachh Bharat
	International						
	and						

	Exhibition							
	Centre							
	Limited							
xi)	NICDC	11.23	2.96	-	-	Pan India	Prime	Minister's
	Neemrana						National	Relief Fund
	Solar						(PMNRF))
	Power							
	Limited							

^{*:} No CSR allocation as average net profit of preceding three years is negative.

^{**:} This includes unspent and unallocated CSR funds carried forward from previous years amounting Rs. 3.81 lakhs.

^{***:} Carry forward amount from previous financial year.

^{****:} CSR activities could not be taken up because of Covid-19 and also due to the financial position of the company and carried forward to next year.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 76 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

EXPORT AND IMPORT

76. SHRI ADHIKARI DEEPAK (DEV):

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

- (a) the details of the Export and Import of the country in the last five years, year and amount wise; and
- (b) the names of top five exporting and importing countries in the last three years along with trade amount?

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 value of overall (merchandise plus services) export and import in the last five years are as follows:

(Value in US\$ billions)

Years	Export	Import
2017-18	498.61	583.11
2018-19	538.08	640.09
2019-20	526.55	602.98
2020-21	497.90	511.12
2021-22	676.53	760.06

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

(b): India's merchandise export to top 5 countries in the last three years are as follows:

(Value in US\$ billions)

S. No.	Country	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1	USA	53.1	51.6	76.2
2	United Arab Emirates	28.9	16.7	28.0
3	China P Rp	16.6	21.2	21.3
4	Bangladesh PR	8.2	9.7	16.2
5	Netherland	8.4	6.5	12.5

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata.

India's merchandise import from top 5 countries in the last three years are as follows:

(Value in US\$ billions)

S. No.	Country	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1	China P Rp	65.3	65.2	94.6
2	United Arab Emirates	30.3	26.6	44.8
3	USA	35.8	28.9	43.3
4	Saudi Arab	26.9	16.2	34.1
5	Iraq	23.7	14.3	31.9

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 100 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

RISING PRICES OF STEEL AND RICE

100. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

- (a) whether keeping in view the rising prices of steel and rice the Government imposed restrictions on export of these two items;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to review the export curbs on these two items in view of prices cooling down; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or being taken by the Government to lift the curbs on several items from export to increase forex reserve and balance of trade?

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): As per Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-2020, the Government of India has not imposed restriction on export of Steel and Rice. Export Policy of Steel and Rice are 'Free'. However, Government of India has 'Prohibited' export of Broken Rice with effect from 08.09.2022.
- (b) and (c): The Government carefully analyzes production, availability, prices and market conditions to protect the interest of domestic farmers and industrial sector while ensuring adequate availability of commodity at reasonable prices for all consumers across the Country.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 141 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

TRADE WITH VIETNAM

141. SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE:

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

- (a) the total volume and value of trade with Vietnam in the last five years; and
- (b) the major sectors for trade, import as well as export with Vietnam including expected value of trade between the two countries by 2025?

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 trade with Vietnam in the last five years is as below:

(Values in USD Million)

Particulars	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Total trade between India and Vietnam	12831.64	13699.61	12343.32	11120.30	14141.19

(Source: DGCI&S)

(b) The major sectors for import from Vietnam are Telecom instruments, Consumer electronics, Copper and its products, Computer hardware/peripherals and Inorganic chemicals. The major sectors for export to Vietnam are Iron and steel, Bovine meat, Raw cotton, Marine products, and Aluminum and its products. If the present Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 6.95% in bilateral trade with Vietnam from 2016-17 to 2021-22 is maintained, the expected value of trade between the two countries will be USD 18.50 Billion by 2025-26.

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 156 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

CONSUMPTION OF TURMERIC

156. SHRI ARVIND DHARMAPURI:

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

- (a) the quantity and value of turmeric consumed in the country during each of the last ten years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) the amount proposed to be provided/spent for the promotion of turmeric to boost its domestic consumption during the above period, year-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

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 estimate on consumption of turmeric, state-wise in the country are not available, however, the domestic availability of turmeric estimated based on the production, export and import data for the last 10 years has been given below:

Year	Domestic availability*(tonnes)
2012-13	909679
2013-14	873665
2014-15	906955
2015-16	908239
2016-17	822919
2017-18	772588
2018-19	854105
2019-20	1069681
2020-21	965698
2021-22	1205636

^{*}Domestic availability is calculated as (Production + Import)–Export

The data on the state-wise production of Turmeric for the last ten years has been attached in **Annexure.**

(b)&(c): Government through Spices Board has been promoting Indian spices, including turmeric through various campaigns on its social media handles. These campaigns cover the culinary, medicinal and industrial applications of Indian spices besides providing authentic and scientific information on production, post-harvest processing, value addition etc. The campaigns on spices are aimed at spice enthusiasts all over the world, including the domestic consumers, resulting in boosting the domestic consumption. Also, the Board has been organizing various focus events in collaboration with various influencers and media houses for promoting the value, uniqueness as well as worthiness of Indian spices. Spices Board's scheme titled 'Integrated Scheme for Export Promotion & Quality Improvement in Spices and Research & Development of Cardamom', for implementation during the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 has been approved. The Export Development & Promotion (EDP) component of the above said scheme aims at promotion of turmeric and other spices in the international market, supporting exporters for infrastructure development, value addition, trade promotion etc. Under the scheme, an annual outlay of Rs. 16.40 crores has been allotted to the EDP component for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26, which will be used for activities/programs in connection with the international promotion of turmeric and other spices. Besides, Government of India through Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare implements various development programmes for horticulture crops, which covers turmeric through State Departments (SHM) under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) with an aim to improve production, productivity and quality of the produce.

Production of turmeric, State-wise for the last ten years (Production in '000 tons)

State	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Andhra Pradesh	438.912	151.906	143.230	121.117	79.729	79.729	69.410	71.321	73.244	74.687
Arunachal Pradesh	2.857	2.857	3.500	3.840	4.000	3.148	2.977	2.977	1.952	1.241
Assam	15.583	15.782	16.335	16.184	16.747	20.787	19.395	22.829	24.665	21.486
Bihar	3.614	3.015	3.592	2.630	3.082	2.829	3.082	2.889	2.874	2.797
Chhattisgarh	0.945	0.964	0.957	1.523	0.997	0.963	1.021	1.157	1.157	1.645
Gujarat	65.948	52.063	64.067	69.247	14.630	15.782	17.386	18.181	18.191	19.198
Haryana	23.836	23.836	23.836	23.836	4.400	2.180	2.195	4.061	3.009	2.938
Himachal Pradesh	0.158	1.004	0.142	0.113	0.112	0.085	0.170	0.197	0.810	0.821
Jammu & Kashmir	0.015	0.018	0.012	0.014	0.014	0.012	0.011	0.004	0.011	0.008
Karnataka	92.405	63.617	76.777	76.490	114.511	122.764	153.767	132.668	131.138	110.033
Kerala	6.904	6.253	6.820	7.112	6.506	8.822	6.694	6.653	7.420	7.402
Madhya Pradesh	1.544	1.527	1.614	1.614	45.916	41.292	47.657	57.067	62.995	72.664
Maharashtra	33.333	87.050	146.435	177.846	44.936	38.591	38.310	218.873	230.741	367.985
Manipur	16.400	16.400	16.400	16.400	3.080	6.170	6.065	6.053	5.684	5.584
Meghalaya	12.831	12.525	15.671	16.324	3.277	3.299	3.311	3.490	3.375	3.474
Mizoram	22.990	24.700	25.130	27.816	28.890	29.820	29.820	29.510	29.820	29.823
Nagaland	5.000	8.540	10.772	10.147	2.067	2.037	1.861	1.834	1.838	1.813
Orissa	17.549	35.759	44.148	43.065	43.600	43.615	43.615	43.615	43.615	68.825
Punjab		2.711	2.627	3.191	3.191	3.191	3.754	3.469	3.300	3.339
Rajasthan	0.464	0.391	0.258	0.374	0.643	0.473	0.450	0.222	0.431	1.234
Sikkim	4.680	5.870	5.020	5.680	5.680	5.680	15.994	16.037	15.464	15.525
Tamil Nadu	174.775	117.416	105.002	115.351	129.563	73.134	92.361	96.254	97.830	104.403
Telangana		252.061	216.268	184.285	305.097	294.561	345.270	386.596	319.760	330.257
Tripura	6.590	6.590	6.590	6.590	11.069	10.080	2.016	2.046	2.049	2.074
Uttar Pradesh	6.000	6.000	6.000	6.000	6.000	6.000	1.913	1.913	2.361	6.639
Uttarakhand	2.485	2.485	1.740	1.738	1.749	2.790	2.836	2.950	2.962	3.039
West Bengal	39.400	42.000	40.240	42.408	45.500	44.700	45.458	45.648	48.183	50.938
Pondicherry	0.009	0.005	0.002	0.004	0.018	0.024	0.015	0.033	0.032	0.024
Andaman & Nicobar	0.470	0.470	0.470	0.470	0.265	0.210	0.313	0.204	0.262	0.251

Source : Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Kozhikkode

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 165 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

EXPORT OF RICE

165. SHRI B.B. PATIL:

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

- (a) whether rice has been exported during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the countries to which rice was exported indicating the grade of rice during the said period, year-wise;
- (c) the details of revenue earned from the export of rice during the said period, grade-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take any steps to export other grades of rice besides Basmati rice; and
- (e) 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 (c): Yes, Sir. The details of the export of rice, basmati and non-basmati, with the countries where rice was exported during the last three years, are provided at Annexure.
- (d) & (e): The promotion of exports of agricultural commodities like non-basmati rice is a continuous process. The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organisation under the administrative control of the Department of Commerce provides financial assistance to the exporters of its scheduled products, including exporters of non-basmati rice, under various component of its scheme namely "Agriculture & Processed Food Export Promotion Scheme of APEDA" viz. Infrastructure Development, Quality Development and Market Development.

APEDA has recognized 234 National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) accredited labs across India to provide testing and analysis services for export of agricultural and processed food products, including non-basmati rice. APEDA also provides financial assistance for upgrading and strengthening recognized laboratories for export testing and residue monitoring plans. An Export Promotion Forum (EPF) has also been established under the aegis of APEDA to promote exports of basmati as well as non-basmati rice.

APEDA also organises buyer seller meets for Indian exporters in foreign markets to promote export of rice, including non-basmati rice.

By virtue of these efforts of the Government, the export of rice has increased by 51.03% in last three years i.e from USD 6403.25 Million in 2019-20 to USD 9571.12 Million in 2021-22.

Annexure related to the reply to part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 165 for answer on 07.12.2022.

INDIA'S EXPORT OF BASMATI RICE						
		Values in	USD Million			
COUNTRY	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22			
IRAN	1246.02	590.67	818.36			
SAUDI ARAB	955.89	951.99	646.22			
IRAQ	433.92	499.62	400.49			
U ARAB EMTS	209.17	203.59	221.11			
YEMEN REPUBLC	195.65	278.32	183.95			
USA	181.26	194.57	183.86			
KUWAIT	201.05	168.26	128.86			
UK	103.79	139.50	116.73			
OMAN	75.87	88.69	73.32			
QATAR	64.95	96.47	64.19			
CANADA	61.33	70.83	63.10			
JORDAN	67.25	62.94	57.15			
ISRAEL	43.00	52.38	50.22			
AUSTRALIA	51.99	64.51	49.63			
MALAYSIA	34.45	39.36	46.62			
EGYPT A RP	20.98	25.26	38.62			
NETHERLAND	45.07	68.10	36.06			
BAHARAIN IS	32.45	37.59	32.51			
MAURITIUS	30.64	31.32	24.48			
SOUTH AFRICA	19.03	17.87	16.48			
OTHER COUNTRIES	298.24	336.57	285.54			
TOTAL	4372.00	4018.41	3537.49			

Source: DGCI&S

INDIA'S EXPORT OF NON-BASMATI RICE						
	Values in USD Mil					
COUNTRY	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22			
BANGLADESH PR	12.12	350.97	613.95			
BENIN	195.90	442.97	531.39			
CHINA P RP	0.78	103.70	496.65			
NEPAL	245.30	405.26	461.49			
COTE D' IVOIRE	107.70	260.30	322.65			
SENEGAL	67.49	304.88	311.91			
TOGO	107.90	283.02	293.99			
GUINEA	120.41	224.50	243.81			
VIETNAM SOC REP	0.78	90.15	231.10			
MADAGASCAR	3.69	127.22	188.84			
SRI LANKA DSR	1.98	1.13	167.67			
CAMEROON	3.49	57.68	165.04			
DJIBOUTI	69.04	113.18	156.50			
SOMALIA	122.95	127.63	154.96			
LIBERIA	79.94	126.27	124.57			
MALAYSIA	28.62	174.37	121.84			
U ARAB EMTS	130.92	142.64	116.24			
ANGOLA	13.62	40.57	95.73			
MOZAMBIQUE	4.51	69.26	88.77			
SOUTH AFRICA	51.90	90.59	73.65			
OTHER COUNTRIES	662.19	1274.49	1172.86			
TOTAL	2031.25	4810.80	6133.63			

Source: DGCI&S

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 176 TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th DECEMBER, 2022

SMALL SCALE RUBBER GROWERS

176. SHRI V. K. SREEKANDAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that small scale rubber growers in Kerala have been demanding to revive the prices of latex as the falling prices have a disproportionate effect on them, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the initiative of the Rubber Board of offering subsidies for sheet making did not have the desired effect, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the rubber growers were demanding to allow the export of one-fourth of the latex production to tide over the falling of prices on latex; and
- (d) if so, the total quantity of latex exported during the current fiscal and the incentives provided by the Rubber Board to the rubber growers on the latex exported?

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 price of centrifuged latex (60% drc) has increased to Rs. 97.20 per Kg. on 30.11.2022 from its recent low of Rs.81.35 per Kg. on 04.11.2022, after Rubber Board's announcement of new incentive for export of latex during November 2022.
- (b) Rubber Board had taken the initiative for encouraging conversion of field latex to sheets rubber grades during the period December 2021 to February 2022. The objective was to ensure consistent supply of sheet rubber, which is the major rubber grade consumed by the domestic rubber industry. It was announced at a point when the domestic latex prices had increased due to increased demand from glove industry. The initiative helped to augment the production of sheet rubber and bring down the tendency to sell produce as latex itself without processing to sheet rubber.

(c)& (d) There is no restriction on export of any grade of natural rubber and export of latex in any quantity. India exported 1526 MTs of rubber during April-October 2022 in which 919 MTs were latex grades. During this period, 295.5 tonne of latex was exported under the brand 'Indian Natural Rubber'.

Board is implementing an assistance programme for branded rubber under brand "India Natural Rubber" to offset the additional cost involved in branding. This assistance is provided at the rate of Rs.0.50/kg for sheet rubber; Rs 0.25/kg for Technically Specified Rubber and Rs 0.20/kg for 60% latex. Further assistance for 60% latex has been increased to Rs.2 per kg drc from 1st November,2022.
