

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2208
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

DUE DILIGENCE PROPOSAL

2208. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the EU's due diligence proposal would impact our micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and reduce imports;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any cost assessment of the impact such a law could have on India's export to the EU and the health of affected MSME firms that have low capacities to implement labour, environment, and other laws;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government intends to raise this issue in the free-trade agreement between New Delhi and Brussels; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the progress made on the said free-trade agreement?

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): The European Commission has brought out a legislative proposal in the form of a Directive on Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence (CSDD) which is yet to be legislated by the EU's competent authorities. At present, discussion between the European Parliament and the EU Council are undergoing to find an internal agreement on the CSDD between the different EU authorities. Its full implication would be clear only when the law comes into effect. On such matters, the Government holds stakeholders' consultation with concerned Ministries/Departments, Industry Bodies and Trade Experts for firming up India's position to raise these issues at the appropriate forum.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2246
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

IIPM

2246. SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plans of establishing more Indian Institutes of Plantation Management (IIPM) across the Country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has made any representations for the establishment of an IIPM in the State and if so, the status of the request 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): Sir, presently, no such proposal is under consideration.

(c): No such representation has been received in this Department from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2229
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

TRANSPORT SUBSIDIES TO EXPORTING STATES

†2229. SHRI DINESH LAL YADAV “NIRAHUA”:

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any effort or proposes to make any effort to increase agricultural exports by providing transport subsidy to exporting states;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of other subsidies being provided by the Government to export agencies for export promotion?

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 Government does not provide any transport subsidy to states for agriculture exports. However, the Government provides subsidy for domestic transportation of eligible crops @ 50% of eligible cost under ‘Operation Greens’ scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. In case of exports, subsidy towards transportation charges is payable only up to Indian borders.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has also introduced Krishi Udan Scheme on international and national routes to assist farmers in transporting agricultural products to help improve their value realization. Krishi Udan Scheme 2.0 mainly focuses on transporting perishable food products from the hilly areas, North Eastern States and tribal areas. For facilitating and incentivising movement of agri-produce by air transportation, waiver of landing charges, parking charges, etc. are provided for Indian freighters and P2C (Passenger-to-Cargo) aircrafts by Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Ministry of Defence at their selected Krishi Udan airports.

(c) The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), a statutory body under the administrative control of Department of Commerce, provides financial assistance to its registered exporters of agricultural products under components such as Development of Export Infrastructure, Quality Development and Market Development under its scheme namely “Agriculture & Processed Food Export Promotion Scheme of APEDA”. Export Promotion Councils and other agencies involved in export promotion of agriculture products are also entitled for assistance under other schemes of the Department of Commerce viz. Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES), Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme etc. In addition, exporters, including those of agricultural products, are entitled to remission of duties or taxes on export products under the Scheme for Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) in accordance with scheme guidelines.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2298
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

EXPORT OF GRAPES

†2298. **SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:**
SHRI HEMANT TUKARAM GODSE:

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

- (a) whether Maharashtra is a major exporter of grapes in the country;
- (b) if so, the countries to which grapes have been exported during the least five years by the State and the revenue earned therefrom;
- (c) whether any incentive is being provided to the farmers of Maharashtra to produce more grapes; 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) Yes, Sir. Maharashtra is the largest grape exporter state in the country. During FY 2022-23, India exported grapes worth USD 348.75 million, out of which share of Maharashtra was 92.52%, worth USD 322.67 million.

(b) Country-wise details of grapes exported from Maharashtra during the last 5 years and the revenue earned therefrom are at Annexure.

(c) & (d) The Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for holistic development of horticulture sector, under which financial assistance is available for various horticulture activities, including pre and post-harvest management activities, for development of production, productivity and export of horticultural crops, including grapes.

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2298 for answer on 02nd August, 2023

Annexure

EXPORT OF GRAPES FROM MAHARASHTRA

Values in USD Million

Countries	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
NETHERLAND	102.31	96.14	104.63	112.70	116.58
U ARAB EMTS	19.18	17.68	21.88	22.12	24.28
U K	28.98	27.54	33.46	21.69	24.27
RUSSIA	42.51	33.94	31.45	30.10	18.02
BANGLADESH PR	0.31	5.46	13.13	36.36	17.01
SAUDI ARAB	13.79	13.21	14.76	10.18	13.56
GERMANY	23.26	17.97	11.34	8.35	12.05
HONG KONG	1.75	2.24	5.54	2.09	10.16
MALAYSIA	4.25	6.43	6.84	6.57	9.73
TURKEY	1.00	1.02	0.28	0.72	9.47
THAILAND	4.96	5.65	4.78	5.35	6.29
CHINA P RP	4.78	4.36	3.21	1.30	6.23
VIETNAM SOC REP	2.06	2.76	3.18	3.05	5.50
OMAN	5.96	6.36	5.87	3.59	4.31
NEPAL	1.08	1.13	2.18	3.08	3.50
INDONESIA	1.73	1.44	0.22	0.90	3.24
BRAZIL	0.47	0.49	0.85	0.49	2.81
MOROCCO	3.55	4.91	1.67	0.18	2.59
ROMANIA	0.76	0.56	0.61	0.59	2.55
OTHER COUNTRIES	37.31	37.03	34.60	36.94	30.53
GRAND TOTAL	299.97	286.31	300.48	306.38	322.67

Source: DGCI&S

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2297
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

IMPORT OF POTATOES

2297. SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER:

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

- (a) whether India is importing Potatoes from other countries; and
(b) if so, the details of import during the year 2023 till June from different 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): Yes, Sir. India has been importing potatoes. Country-wise value of import of potatoes during last three years is as follows:

(value in US\$ million)

Sl. No:	Country	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Bhutan	0.03	0.76	1.02
2	Bangladesh Pr		0.01	
	Total	0.03	0.77	1.02

Source: DGCI&S

There has been no import of potato during 2023-24 (till June, 2023).

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2228
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

TOTAL EXPORTS

†2228. **SHRI PARBATBHAI SAVABHAI PATEL:**

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

- (a) whether total export of India has crossed its highest mark till date in the 75th year of Independence;
- (b) if so, the measures being taken by the Ministry to develop its large domestic market to the optimum level and expand its reach across the world;
- (c) whether new schemes have been implemented by the Ministry to establish India at global stage and showcase its business in the entire world by industrialists and businessmen; 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): India's overall export (merchandise plus services) was US\$ 776.3 billion in 2022-23 which is the highest in terms of overall exports until now.

The Government has taken the following measures to promote India's export and to develop its large domestic market to the optimum level and expand its reach across the world:

- (i) New Foreign Trade Policy has been launched on 31st March, 2023 and came in to effect from 1st April, 2023.
- (ii) 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 and to develop its large domestic market to the optimum level and expand its reach across the world.

- (iii) Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit has also been extended upto 31-03-2024.
- (iv) Assistance provided through several schemes to promote exports, namely, Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) and Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme.
- (v) Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Scheme to promote labour oriented sector export has been implemented since 07.03.2019.
- (vi) Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme has been implemented since 01.01.2021. With effect from 15.12.2022, uncovered sectors like pharmaceuticals, organic and inorganic chemicals and article of iron and steel has been covered under RoDTEP. Similarly, anomalies in 432 tariff lines have been addressed and the corrected rates have been implemented with effect from 16.01.2023.
- (vii) Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been launched to facilitate trade and increase Free Trade Agreement (FTA) utilization by exporters.
- (viii) 12 Champion Services Sectors have been identified for promoting and diversifying services exports by pursuing specific action plans.
- (ix) Active role of Indian missions abroad towards promoting India's trade, tourism, technology and investment goals has been enhanced.
- (x) Regular monitoring of export performance with Commercial Missions abroad, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards/ Authorities and Industry Associations and taking corrective measures from time to time.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2197
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

EFFECT OF US SANCTIONS ON INDIAN TRADE

2197. SHRI N. REDDEPPA:

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

- (a) whether trade with Russia has been affected due to sanctions by the United States of America;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of measures being taken by the Government to protect India's trade interests?

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): India's trade with Russia has been affected due to the difficulties in payment because of sanctions on major Russian banks including their disconnection from SWIFT; problems in insurance and re-insurance coverage; and logistics, as the major shipping and logistics companies do not serve Russia bound cargo.

Government of India has taken several steps to not only sustain but to increase our exports to Russia, including payments in national currencies, smooth operationalization of the International North South Transport Corridor and the Eastern Maritime (Chennai-Vladivostok) Corridor. On 11 July, 2022, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had issued guidelines for opening Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVA) by foreign banks in Indian commercial banks. As of 2 July, 2023, RBI has approved 34 applications from different Russian banks for opening SRVA in 14 Indian commercial banks. Additionally, multiple meetings have been held with traders, banks and other stakeholders to resolve trade related issues.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2164
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

IMPORT OF ARECANUT

2164. SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:

SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH:

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

- (a) whether it is true that there has been a steady increase in the import of arecanut from Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Indonesia in the last nearly two years;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has taken steps to impose Minimum Import Price (MIP) to safeguard domestic farmers and if so, the details thereof and if not reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is true that the government has not imported arecanut from Bhutan in the last four years, including the current financial year and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is also true that the Government has in July 2023 issued a circular to import arecanut from Bhutan every year and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken note of the concern expressed by domestic arecanut growers and if so, the response of 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): There has been an increase in the import of arecanuts in the last two years from Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

(b): Considering the increase in import of arecanuts into the country, the Government has raised the Minimum Import Price (MIP) of arecanut under ITC(HS) 080280 from Rs. 251/- per kg. to Rs. 351/- per kg. vide Notification No. 57/2015-2020 dated 14th February, 2023 so as to safeguard the interest of domestic farmers. Further, the import policy of Supari under ITC(HS) 21069030 is revised from 'free' to

“prohibited” and import of Supari is ‘free’ if CIF value is Rs. 351/- or above per kilogram vide the said Notification. The MIP conditions shall not be applicable for imports by 100% Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and units in the SEZs subject to the condition that no Domestic Tariff Area sale is allowed.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. There has been no import of arecanut from Bhutan during the last four years. As per the Notification No. 36/2015-2020 dated 28th September, 2022 read with Notification No. 17/2023 dated 3rd July, 2023 issued by the Government, import of 17,000 MT of fresh (green) arecanut from Bhutan has been allowed every year without MIP condition and such imports are allowed only through LCS Jaigaon (INJIGB) and LCS Chamurchi (INCHMB) and such imports are subject to a valid port-specific Registration Certificate issued by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

(e): Based on various representations received from domestic farmers and farmers’ organizations, the Government has taken the following measures to restrict the unabated imports of arecanut and to prevent entry of inferior quality arecanut into Indian market destabilizing the domestic prices:-

- (i) Import of arecanut is discouraged by imposing import duty @ 100% which is the Bound Rate of Duty.
- (ii) Import of arecanut and Supari is ‘free’ if CIF value is equal or above the MIP value of Rs. 351/- per kg. and ‘prohibited’ if CIF value is less than Rs. 351/- per kg.
- (iii) Stringent adherence of quality standards by field offices of FSSAI before clearing the import consignments.
- (iv) Checking of ‘Rules of Origin’ by Customs to ensure that arecanut grown in countries other than SAARC is not imported through our neighbouring countries taking advantage of import duty exemption under trade agreements.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2156
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

EXPORTS

2156. PROF. SOUGATA RAY:

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

- (a) the details of exports since the last three years to various countries, sector-wise;
- (b) whether the export is decreasing year by year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the reasons for reduction of export;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any steps to increase the export; 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): India's overall export (merchandise plus services) increased from US\$ 497.7 billion in 2020-21 to US\$ 676.53 billion in 2021-22, registering a positive growth of 35.88% and it increased to US\$ 776.30 billion in 2022-23, registering a positive growth of 14.75%. Values of India's merchandise export to top 20 countries/region during last three years are given at **Annexure-I**. Values of India's merchandise export of top 20 major commodities during last three years are given at **Annexure-II**.

(d) & (e): The Government has taken the following measures to promote India's export:

- (i) New Foreign Trade Policy has been launched on 31st March, 2023 and came in to effect from 1st April, 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 sector 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. With effect from 15.12.2022, uncovered sectors like pharmaceuticals, organic and inorganic chemicals and article of iron and steel has been covered under RoDTEP. Similarly, anomalies in 432 tariff lines have been addressed and the corrected rates have been implemented with effect from 16.01.2023.
- (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) Regular monitoring of export performance with Commercial Missions abroad, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards/ Authorities and Industry Associations and taking corrective measures from time to time.

Annexure-I

Statement referred to in reply of parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question No. 2156 for answer on 2nd August, 2023.

India's merchandise export to top 20 countries/region during last three years

(Value in US\$ Million)

S. No.	Country/Region	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	U S A	51,623	76,167	78,543
2	U Arab Emts	16,680	28,045	31,609
3	Netherland	6,473	12,544	21,618
4	China P Rp	21,187	21,260	15,306
5	Bangladesh Pr	9,692	16,156	12,204
6	Singapore	8,676	11,151	11,993
7	U K	8,158	10,461	11,406
8	Saudi Arab	5,857	8,759	10,728
9	Germany	8,125	9,883	10,135
10	Indonesia	5,026	8,472	10,024
11	Brazil	4,245	6,489	9,919
12	Hong Kong	10,162	10,985	9,893
13	Turkey	3,953	8,716	9,610
14	Belgium	5,236	10,084	8,864
15	Italy	4,736	8,181	8,691
16	Israel	2,701	4,796	8,451
17	South Africa	3,934	6,085	8,474
18	Nepal	6,838	9,646	8,016
19	France	4,782	6,641	7,610
20	Malaysia	6,058	6,995	7,156
Total of the above		1,94,141	2,81,516	3,00,251

Source: DGCI&S

Annexure-II

Statement referred to in reply of parts (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question No. 2156 for answer on 2nd August, 2023.

India's merchandise export of top 20 major commodities during last three years

(Value in US\$ Million)

S. No.	QE Groups	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Engineering Goods	76720	112163	107036
2	Petroleum Products	25804	67472	97401
3	Gems And Jewellery	26023	39099	37957
4	Organic & Inorganic Chemical	22088	29365	30342
5	Drugs And Pharmaceuticals	24444	24594	25393
6	Electronic Goods	11093	15660	23551
7	Rmg Of All Textiles	12272	16015	16192
8	Rice	8829	9671	11143
9	Cotton Yarn/Fabs./Madeups, Handloom Products Etc.	9828	15298	10946
10	Plastic And Linoleum	7463	9825	8366
11	Marine Products	5962	7772	8078
12	Mica, Coal And Other Ores, Minerals Including Process	4332	5217	5144
13	Man-Made Yarn/Fabs./Madeups Etc.	3806	5615	4949
14	Leather And Leather Manufactures	3301	4381	4752
15	Meat, Dairy And Poultry Products	3658	4141	4029
16	Spices	3984	3896	3784
17	Ceramic Products And Glassware	3051	3465	3736
18	Fruits And Vegetables	2613	2883	3206
19	Cereal Preparations And Miscellaneous Processed Item	1860	2281	2615
20	Iron Ore	4897	3248	1798
Total of the above		2,62,028	3,82,062	4,10,418

Source: DGCI&S

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2146
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

GeM

2146. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU:

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

- (a) whether the procurement of goods and services through Government e-market place (GeM) has touched an all-time high;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the features of the process and the amount of savings made by the Government as a result thereof during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (c) the extent to which GeM would help the stakeholders to participate in a fair and equitable manner?

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. In Financial Year 2022-23, Government e-marketplace (GeM) registered its highest ever Gross Merchandise Value of ₹ 2,01,113 crore.

(b): Time and again, multiple studies have pointed out the impact created by GeM in terms of procurement savings to government buyers, including those by the World Bank and the National Economic Survey. A World Bank study in 2020 estimated an average of 9.75% cost savings via GeM and noted a significant increase in participation of sellers.

The Economic Survey 2021-22 included a cost comparison of offer prices for 22 common use goods listed on GeM versus listings on popular online platforms like Amazon and Flipkart. Prices on GeM were observed to be 9.5% lower in comparison with other online platforms for 10 out of 22 commodities.

Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of GeM in ₹ crore in the last 3 completed financial years	
2020-21	38,573
2021-22	106,547
2022-23	201,113

GeM has achieved a cumulative GMV of more than 4.5 lakh crore until 23rd July 2023 (since inception). Hence, considering the saving estimates as reported above, GeM has facilitated savings worth more than ₹ 40,000 crore since its inception.

Major Features enabling savings: Higher seller participation, real-time price comparison, bulk discounts, better price discovery functionalities such as competitive bidding, reverse auction and demand aggregation.

(c): GeM aims to bring transparency, efficiency, and fairness to the Government procurement process. It benefits stakeholders in several ways, allowing them to participate in a fair and equitable manner. GeM encourages fair and equitable participation from all stakeholders in the Government procurement process, fostering a competitive and efficient marketplace. It enhances transparency, promotes inclusivity, and ensures that the best products and services are procured at the most competitive prices for the Government.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2135
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

DECLINE IN EXPORTS

2135. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been decline in the exports of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years, month-wise;
- (c) the details of the reasons for the drop in the volume of exports from the country;
- (d) whether the Government is taking any measures to improve the export volume of goods of the country; 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) to (c): India's overall export (merchandise plus services) increased from US\$ 497.7 billion in 2020-21 to US\$ 676.53 billion in 2021-22, registering a positive growth of 35.88% and it increased to US\$ 776.30 billion in 2022-23, registering a positive growth of 14.75%. Month-wise India's value of overall export (merchandise plus services) during last three years are given at **Annexure**.

(d) & (e): The Government has taken the following measures to improve India's export of goods:

- (i) New Foreign Trade Policy has been launched on 31st March, 2023 and came in to effect from 1st April, 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 sector 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. With effect from 15.12.2022, uncovered sectors like pharmaceuticals, organic and inorganic chemicals and article of iron and steel has been covered under RoDTEP. Similarly, anomalies in 432 tariff lines have been addressed and the corrected rates have been implemented with effect from 16.01.2023.
- (vi) Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been launched to facilitate trade and increase Free Trade Agreement (FTA) utilization by exporters.
- (vii) 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.
- (viii) Active role of Indian missions abroad towards promoting India's trade, tourism, technology and investment goals has been enhanced.
- (ix) Regular monitoring of export performance with Commercial Missions abroad, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards/ Authorities and Industry Associations and taking corrective measures from time to time.

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question No. 2135 for answer on 2nd August, 2023.

Month-wise overall export (merchandise plus services) during last three years

(Value in US\$ million)

Month	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
April	26.62	48.81	63.75
May	36.01	50.16	64.13
June	39.03	52.79	69.20
July	40.81	54.87	62.60
August	39.27	53.84	63.52
September	44.84	55.42	64.61
October	41.50	56.10	56.95
November	40.70	52.47	61.87
December	45.94	65.25	69.16
January	44.90	56.86	63.78
February	45.48	58.46	64.39
March	56.05	71.52	72.34

Source: DGCIS and RBI

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2127
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

TRADE WAR BETWEEN USA AND CHINA

2127. PROF. RITA BAHUGUNA JOSHI:
DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:
DR. KRISHNA PAL SINGH YADAV:
SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:
DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the `Trade War` between the United States of America and the People`s Republic of China which is still in existence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the trend of Multi-National Corporations exiting China in search of alternative countries amidst unfavorable trade agreements with US;
- (d) if so, the details of India`s comparative position vis-a-vis China with respect to stability, infrastructure, manpower, learning, discipline and labour laws; and
- (e) the details of steps and actions taken by the Government to facilitate the capture of potential foreign investment?

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) and (b):** The Government keeps track of the international trade developments and has noted that the United States of America has announced its intention to de-risk its economic dependence on China.
- (c):** There is no public data available regarding companies shifting production outside China or global companies closing their business in China and moving to other countries.

(d) and (e): The Government, from time to time, has initiated reforms to improve business environment in the country. The focus of these reforms has been to streamline the existing regulations and processes and eliminate unnecessary requirements and procedures. Country specific desks have been created in Invest India for handholding and facilitation of potential investors looking for investment in India. The Government initiatives in the form of Make in India, Production Linked Incentives, Ease of Doing Business, Liberalisation of FDI policy, Skill development, infrastructure development, financial sector reforms, etc, are aimed at making India an attractive destination for foreign investment.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2117
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

CHILLI PRODUCTION

2117. SHRI POCHA BRAHMANANDA REDDY:

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 during the last three years are given below:

Year	Production	Export	
	Quantity (MT)	Quantity (MT)	Value (₹. Lakhs)
2020-21	2049213	649815	924127
2021-22	1836222	557144	858458
2022-23 (Advance estimate)	1957635	516185	1044592

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Production) and Spices Board (Export)

- (b) & (c):** Presently, no such proposal is under consideration. 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. Spices Board is undertaking activities for post-harvest improvement, building market linkages and export promotion of spices including chilli.

(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 in 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.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2082
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

INDIA-UAE TRADE PACT

2082. SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY:

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

- (a) the recent updates on India-UAE trade pact and negotiations;
- (b) the possible implications of this deal on small and medium businesses in India;
- (c) whether it would affect our trade deficit with UAE; and
- (d) if so, the impact of the same on all the sectors along with 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 First Meeting of the Joint Committee (JC) of the India-United Arab Emirates (UAE) Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) was held on June 11, 2023, in New Delhi. During the Joint Committee meeting, both sides, inter-alia, reviewed the bilateral trade under the CEPA, agreed to operationalize the established committees/sub-committees/technical council under the CEPA, agreed on mutual exchange of preferential trade data on quarterly basis for effective monitoring of the CEPA, discussed various matters related to the implementation of the Agreement and agreed on addressing any issue that may potentially act as a hindrance to CEPA implementation or its usage by businesses on both sides and agreed on creation of a new sub-committee on Trade in Services.

(b) to (d): India benefits from preferential market access provided by the UAE on over 97 % of its tariff lines which account for 99% of Indian exports to the UAE in value terms and include products from labour-intensive sectors (most of which are in MSME category) such as Gems and Jewellery, Textiles, leather, footwear, sports goods, plastics, furniture, agricultural and wood products.

During the Joint Committee meeting, India and UAE also agreed to set-up a UAE-India CEPA Council (UICC) as a B2B collaboration mechanism, with a focus on MSMEs and start-ups, for building greater economic linkages and optimizing CEPA benefits.

During the Financial Year 2022-23 which includes the post-CEPA implementation period, India's exports to the UAE have grown by 11.8%. Key Indian sectors that have gained under CEPA are Mineral Fuels, Mineral Oils & products of their distillation, Electrical Machinery and equipment, Gems and Jewellery, Automobiles, Essential oils and resinoids; perfumery, cosmetic or toilet preparations, Machinery & mechanical Appliances and cereals.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2081
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

SUPPORT TO RUBBER FARMERS

2081. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

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

- (a) the steps and measures taken to protect the interests of rubber farmers of Kerala;
- (b) whether the Government has observed that price of imported rubber is causing issues for natural rubber producers of India and if so, the steps and measures taken to redress the grievances of rubber farmers;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to increase the support price of rubber to Rs. 300/- 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): Government of India through Rubber Board is implementing the scheme “Sustainable and Inclusive Development of Natural Rubber Sector” for the development of natural rubber sector. Under the scheme, Rubber Board provides subsidy for new planting and replanting (of senile plantations) to growers. Rubber Board also provides quality planting material, promotes Rubber Producers Societies (RPS), sets up Group Processing Centres, provides training for tapping of rubber trees and processing of field latex, provides assistance for rain guarding to increase number of tapping days and provides assistance for prevention of diseases in rubber plantations.

(b): The price of natural rubber is determined in the open market based on demand and supply. International rubber prices also influence the domestic prices. The Government, with the objective to regulate the impact of international rubber prices on domestic prices, had increased the duty on import of dry rubber from “20% or Rs. 30 per kg whichever is lower” to bound rate of “25% or Rs. 30 per kg whichever is lower”, w.e.f 30.4.2015. The Government had also reduced the period of utilization of imported dry rubber under advance licensing scheme from 18 months to 6 months in January 2015. The Port of entry for import of Natural Rubber had also been restricted to ports at Chennai and Nhava Sheva in January 2016. Further, in the Union Budget 2023-24, the rate of custom duty on compound rubber has also been increased from 10% to 25%, same as that on natural rubber.

(c) & (d): Presently, no such proposal is under consideration.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2076
ANSWERED ON 02/08/2023

RoDTEP

2076. SHRI D.K. SURESH:

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

- (a) the number of products that were exported from India during last three financial years, sector-wise;
- (b) the sector-wise breakdown of duties and taxes that are being remitted by the Government under the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme since its inception; and
- (c) whether there has been a decline in the exports of products in recent years, if so, the details and 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): The sectoral tariff lines, FoB value(in Million USD) and the support provided under RoDTEP scheme are available in the Annexure.

(c): No, Sir. There has been no decline in the value of goods exports in US dollars during the years 2020-21 to 2022-23.

Annexure referred to in reply of Parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2076 for answer on 02.08.2023

Sector wise export from FY 2020-21 to FY 2022-23

Chapter	Description (Sector wise)	FY 2020-2021			FY 2021-22			FY 2022-23		
		No. of Tariff Lines	FoB Value(in Million USD)	Remission of duty under RODTEP (in Rs. Cr)	No.of Tariff Lines	FoB Value(in Million USD)	Remission of duty under RODTEP (in Rs. Cr)	No. of Tariff Lines	FoB Value(in Million USD)	Remission of duty under RODTEP (in Rs. Cr)
01-05	Live Animal Products	279	8915.80	205.41	285	11178.44	1150.24	284	10974.06	1291.17
06-14	Vegetable Products (6-14)	607	19767.42	471.64	611	23411.81	1801.67	617	25334.65	2172.9
15	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	108	1633.17	31.62	111	1547.07	96.23	114	2062.83	138.21
16-24	Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits and vinegar, tobacco and manufactured tobacco Substitutes	384	9442.32	133.74	384	11336.40	496.41	386	14286.54	582.38
25-27	Mineral Products	305	34538.05	0.00	306	75452.36	0.00	301	105715.0 ₉	0
28-38	Products of The Chemical or Allied Industries	2055	50294.31	110.03	2070	58776.17	507.12	2095	59832.73	969.26
39-40	Plastics and articles thereof, rubber and articles thereof	545	10125.49	86.43	547	13688.21	458.87	558	12359.33	448.98
41-43	raw hides and skins, leather, fur skins & articles thereof; saddlery and harness; travel goods, handbags and similar containers; articles of animal gut (other than silkworm gut)	109	2222.46	54.84	112	3019.76	254.57	110	3075.35	279.93

44-46	Wood and articles of wood;wood charcoal; cork and articles of cork; manufactures of straw, of esparto or of other plaiting materials; basket ware and wicker work.	182	521.85	7.01	195	823.20	29.53	208	706.83	27.23
47-49	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material; recovered (waste and scrap) paper or paper board; paper and paperboard & articles thereof	243	2201.14	42.17	247	3544.60	224.80	244	3343.01	204.04
50-63	Textile & Textile Articles	1761	30904.46	602.76	1769	43437.57	2927.92	1771	35666.85	1966.43
64-67	Footwear, Headgear, Umbrellas, Sun Umbrellas, Walking-Sticks, Seat-Sticks, Whips, Riding-Crops And Parts thereof, Prepared Feathers And Articles Made Thee with; Artificial Flowers; Articles Of Human Hair	104	2318.99	47.06	104	3210.98	218.56	104	3564.25	258.2
68-70	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica or similar materials; ceramic products; glass and glassware	253	4818.58	81.01	255	5633.41	328.97	254	5774.03	379.59
71	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals clad with precious metal and articles thereof; Imitation jewellery; coin	119	26163.88	2.84	119	39268.62	12.37	117	38112.48	12.06
72-83	Base Metal & Articles Of Base Metal	1166	28596.36	151.97	1195	48520.39	690.91	1195	37834.05	857.94
84-85	Machinery and mechanical appliances; electrical	1598	33167.90	357.41	1621	45588.80	1566.40	1655	56080.28	1877.39

	equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such Articles									
86-89	Vehicles; aircraft; vessels& associated transport equipment	237	19467.29	244.50	257	24956.71	1111.88	257	27056.68	1307.22
90-92	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus; clocks and watches; musical instruments; parts and accessories thereof	342	3373.14	18.48	343	4106.85	83.84	340	4916.84	108.77
93	Arms And Ammunition; Parts and Accessories Thereof	14	205.73	0.79	14	252.18	2.28	17	315.13	4.33
94-96	Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	223	2966.31	30.78	225	4098.15	138.13	232	3691.31	134.82
97-98	Works of art, collectors' pieces and Antiques	28	60.20	0.01	31	84.85	0.06	37	151.96	0.04
	Total	10662	291704.86	2680.50	10801	421936.57	12100.76	10896	450854.28	13020.89

1. Value for FY 2022-23 is provisional

2. Value in million USD includes value on which RODTEP has been paid.
