

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 502
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

BORDER HAATS

502. SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL:
SHRI MITESH RAMESHBHAI PATEL (BAKABHAI):

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

- (a) whether the Government is making efforts for promotion of trade through setting up of Border Haats;
- (b) if so, the details of Border Haats along with the status of their operationality, State-wise;
- (c) the details of trade that has taken place through these Border Haats during the last three years, year and State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government is planning to set up new Border Haats; 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) Border haats have been established with the aim to promote the wellbeing of the people dwelling in remote areas across the borders, by establishing traditional system of marketing the local produce through local markets, thereby promoting trade among countries.

(b) Details of sanctioned border haats along with status of their operationality State-wise is mentioned below:

S. No.	Border Haat	State	Status
1	Balat	Meghalaya	Operational
2	Rynku	Meghalaya	Operational
3	Nalikata	Meghalaya	Operational
4	Bholaganj	Meghalaya	Operational

5	Kalaichar	Meghalaya	Operational
6	Shibbari	Meghalaya	Proposed for relocation.
7	Kamlasagar	Tripura	Closed since March 2020 due to Covid-19 pandemic.
8	Srinagar	Tripura	Operational
9	Kamalpur	Tripura	The project is expected to be complete by January, 2024.
10	Raghna (Palbasti)	Tripura	Ready for Foundation Stone laying Ceremony.

(c) details of the trade through functional Border Haats during last three years, year-wise, State-wise is given below:

Sl.	Name of the Border Haat	F.Y. wise Trade Volume (Rs. in Lakh)		
		2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Meghalaya				
1	Balat	Closed due to Covid restrictions. Reopened on 26.4.2022.		957.00
2	Ryngku	Inaugurated in March 2021 Closed due to Covid restrictions. Reopened on 12.05.2022.		187.00
3	Kalaichar	Closed due to Covid restrictions. Reopened on 30.11.2022.		201.07
4	Nalikata	Closed due to Covid restrictions. Reopened on 23.05.2023.		
5	Bholaganj	Closed due to Covid restrictions. Reopened on 06.05.2023.		
Tripura				
1	Srinagar	Closed due to Covid. Reopened on 09.05.2023		
2	Kamalasagar	Closed due to Covid since March 2020		

Source: State Governments of Tripura and Meghalaya

(d) & (e) During the second meeting of Joint Committee on Border Haats, the following six new Border Haats have been identified;

S. No.	Indian side	Bangladesh side
1	Kilapara, Dalu (West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya, Border Pillar (1113/5S))	Nakugaon (Nalitabari Upazilla, Sherpur District)
2	Huroi (East Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya, Border Pillar 1315)	Sonatanpunji (Kanaighat Upazilla, Sylhet District)
3	Ghoshkhamar (Belonia Subdivision) Or Radhanagar (Belonia Subdivision, Tripura)	Jagatrampur (ChauddogramUpazillaCumilla District) Or Boidhyerkhil (ChauddogramUpazilla, Cumilla District)
4	Belcherra (Khowai Subdivision, Khowai District, Tripura)	Nolua Tea Mauja (ChunarughatUpazilla, Habiganj District)
5	Latu (Karimganj District, Assam, Border Pillar 1363-1364)	Muria (BiyanibazarUpazilla, Sylhet District)
6	Satrasal (Dhubri District, Assam, Border Pillar 1001-1003)	Char Bhurungamari (BhurungamariUpazilla, Kurigram District)

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.501
ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

MIXING OF INDIAN CARDAMOM

501. DR. PON GAUTHAM SIGAMANI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Guatemalan cardamom is mixed with Indian cardamom and pooled at the auctions;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the mixing of Guatemalan cardamom with local produce has led to fall in prices of Indian cardamom;
- (c) whether it is true that such mixing has been brought to the notice of the Government; and
- (d) if so, the corrective 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) to (d) Spices Board received one reference regarding such mixing. However, Spices Board has informed that there is no evidence, so far, to prove that Guatemalan cardamom is mixed with Indian cardamom and pooled in the e-auctions. Spices Board has also issued directions to all the auctioneers to take necessary action to ensure that lots mixed with cardamom from Guatemala are not pooled for sale in the e-auctions.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 493
ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

e-COMMERCE EXPORT POLICY

493. SHRI K. NAVASKANI:

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

- (a) whether the Government agrees with the view that the country's e-commerce export Policy should be an independent document addressing all pain points faced by exporters;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps that are proposed to be taken by the Government keeping in mind that this policy should be jointly issued by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Customs, and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) after making necessary changes to their regulations; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefore?

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 Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2023 as notified on 01.04.2023 has introduced a separate chapter for 'Promoting Cross Border Trade in the Digital Economy'. The objective of this chapter is to provide a framework for cross-border trade of goods and services from India in the digital economy and the promotion of e-Commerce and other emerging channels of exports from India.

(b) & (c) Under the FTP mandate, DGFT is working jointly with Department of Revenue, RBI, Department of Posts, Ministry of MSMEs and other stakeholders, to review and revise relevant policy and procedures to provide facilitation to exports through e-Commerce.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 485
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

IPEF

485. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:
SHRI BHOLA SINGH:
DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE:
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:
DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently participated in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) meeting held in United States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether during the meeting, the first-of-itskind IPEF Supply Chain Resilience Agreement was signed with the Ministers from other IPEF partner countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has also urged for early implementation of the envisaged cooperative work under IPEF;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the steps being taken by the Government for enhanced collaboration to realize collective aims of the IPEF, particularly on the need for mobilizing affordable financing for clean economy transition and for enhancing technology cooperation?

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, India participated in the third-in person Ministerial Meeting of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) held on 13-14 November, 2023 and the IPEF Leaders' Meeting held on 16 November, 2023. Both these engagements were held in San Francisco, USA.

(c) to (g) Yes, Sir. During the IPEF Ministerial Meeting on 14 November 2023, India, along with other IPEF partner countries, signed the IPEF Supply Chain Resilience Agreement. As on date, the Agreement has not come into force. As per the provisions of the Agreement, entry into force shall be 30 days after the date on which at least five of the IPEF members submit their respective instrument of ratification, acceptance, or approval with the Depositary.

IPEF Supply Chain Resilience Agreement is expected to make IPEF supply chains more resilient, robust, and well-integrated, and contribute towards economic development and progress of the region as a whole. Further, under IPEF Pillar-III (Clean Economy), India emphasized the need for increased collaboration among partners on research and development of innovative and affordable climate friendly technologies.

Negotiations on IPEF Pillar-III (Clean Economy) and Pillar-IV (Fair Economy) were substantially concluded in November 2023. These Agreements are also expected to come into force following the legal vetting, domestic approval, signing and ratification processes.

As and when these IPEF Agreements enter the implementation phase, Government of India looks forward to actively participate in the collaborative work programmes envisaged under the various IPEF Pillars II to IV, including in the IPEF Pillar-III Clean Economy Investor Forum with an aim to mobilize affordable financing for clean economy transition and to work closely with IPEF partners for enhancing technology cooperation.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 478
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

LGDs

478. SHRI Y. DEVENDRAPPA:
SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI DILIP SAIKIA:

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

- (a) whether the Government plans to develop indigenous technology for producing critical machinery components and seeds required for production of Lab Grown Diamonds (LGD);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by the Government to provide the indigenous technology to startups at affordable cost in order to increase employment opportunities as well as increased export of cut and polished LGDs?

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) In order to promote indigenization of technology in producing Lab Grown Diamonds, a research Project has been awarded to IIT Madras with an outlay of Rs. 242.96 crores over a period of 5 years.

The Research Project on InCent-LGD is in its initial stage. Once the project gets completed, startups in Gems and Jewellery Sector may take benefit of the developed technology. In order to reduce input cost on LGDs, Custom duty on Seeds for use in manufacturing of rough lab-grown diamonds has been reduced from 5% to “NIL” for a period of two years. In order to ensure that exported diamonds are correctly classified, separate HS Codes to differentiate and identify LGD stones and LGD stones studded in gold, silver & platinum jewellery from that of natural diamonds was announced in the Union Budget 2023- 24. All these steps are likely to increase the export of cut and polished LGDs which will also increase employment opportunities.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 683
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

EXPORT OF BANANA

**683. SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI RANJEETSINGH NAIK NIMBALKAR:**

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

- (a) whether it is true that despite being the world's largest banana producer, India's export share is currently just one percent in the global market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the quality and shelf life of bananas to meet the strict standards of the European Market and also to establish a value chain for bananas by working directly with the farmers?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) & (b) India is the largest producer of banana, But has huge domestic consumption base within the country. This and high perishability of the product and distance from markets like US and EU has also contributed to low exports.

(c) The government has been taking steps, including those required to improve quality and shelf life, to promote export of bananas. The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), a statutory body under the administrative control of Department of Commerce, has the mandate to promote export of bananas. An Export Promotion Forum (EPF) for bananas, with representation from trade/industry, line

ministries/departments, regulatory agencies, research institutes, state governments etc., has been established under the aegis of APEDA. The EPF strives to identify and anticipate developments pertaining to production and exports of bananas, reach out to stakeholders across the entire production/ supply chain of exports and make recommendations for necessary policy interventions and other measures to promote exports. APEDA has also identified production clusters for banana in various States and have promoted controlled field management practices and use of movable post-harvest equipment such as pre-coolers; ripening chambers and ethylene dip tanks in these clusters. APEDA has also facilitated bulk movement of bananas through refrigerated train from Andhra Pradesh to Mumbai port for onward transportation to West Asian countries. APEDA has also initiated development of sea protocol for facilitating exports to European countries.

APEDA assists exporters in promoting exports by organising buyer-seller meets (BSMs); participation in international trade fairs and exhibitions; taking up the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS), Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) and Market Access issues with the importing countries; and regular interactions with the Indian Missions to tap export opportunities in various countries.

The above steps have resulted in significant increase in exports of banana during the past three years, as detailed below:

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (in USD Mill)
2020-21	232518.22	99.86
2021-22	376572.37	157.86
2022-23	361841.61	174.83

Source: DGCI&S

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 668
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

MARINE EXPORTS

668. DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:
SHRI T.R.V.S. RAMESH:

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

- (a) the details of marine exports during the last three years and the current year, product-wise;
- (b) whether Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has taken any steps to enhance exports of shrimp;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether MPEDA has increased incentives to export-oriented shrimp companies and fishermen communities; 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 details of the product-wise marine exports during the last three years and the current year are at **Annexure**.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), a statutory organization under administrative control of Department of Commerce entrusted with responsibility of promotion of export of marine products including shrimp from the country has undertaken various steps for promotion of exports of marine products including through participation in international trade fairs, organizing Buyer-Seller Meets (BSMs), Reverse Buyer Seller Meets (RBSMs), providing financial support for processing and exporting marine value-added products including that of shrimp. Further, MPEDA has

established Nucleus Breeding Centre for the Specific Pathogen-Free (SPF) Tiger Shrimp breeding project in Andaman Island which is expected to give a boost to domestic shrimp production as well as to its exports.

(d) & (e): MPEDA provides financial and technical assistance for upgrading the infrastructure facilities for value addition including for establishment of laboratories, participation in international trade fairs, technical assistance for aquaculture production meant for exports etc. The budget allocated to MPEDA for promotion of export of marine products is given below:

Year	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Total
Budgetary support to MPEDA in Rs in crore	110	116	120	126	133	605

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 668 for answer on 06.12.2023

Product wise export of marine products during the last 3 years						
			2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (April- Sept)
SL	Item Name	HS Code	Value [in USD Million]	Value [in USD Million]	Value [in USD Million]	Value [in USD Million]
1	LIVE FISH	301	2.12	5.01	6.26	2.06
2	FISH- FRESH OR CHILLED (EXCLUDING FISH FILLETS AND OTHER FISH MEAT OF HEADING 0304)	302	42.70	46.76	48.78	27.95
3	FROZEN FISH (EXCLUDING FISH FILLETS AND OTHER FISH MEAT OF HEADING 0304)	303	383.36	438.54	659.42	247.86
4	FISH FILLETS AND OTHER FISH MEAT (WHETHER OR NOT MINCED, FRESH, CHILLED OR FROZEN)	304	224.74	286.81	296.10	123.26
5	FISH DRIED SALTED OR IN BRINE; SMOKED FISH FIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION	305	82.88	64.18	47.17	15.20
6	CRUSTACEANS WHETHER IN SHELL OR NOT, LIVE, FRESH, CHILLED, FROZEN, DRIED, SALTED OR IN BRINE	306	3945.54	5317.85	4911.33	2384.70
7	MOLLUSCS FIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION EVEN SMOKED WHETHER IN SHELL OR NOT LIVE, FRESH, CHILLED, FROZEN	307	552.61	741.45	852.59	350.14
8	AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES OTHER THAN CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS LIVE, FRESH, CHILLED, FROZEN, DRIED	308	1.44	2.36	1.74	1.90
9	FATS AND OILS AND THEIR FRACTIONS, OF FISH OR MARINE MAMMALS WHETHER OR NOT REFINED	1504	1.00	2.74	121.57	34.82
10	PREPARED OR PRESERVED FISH; CAVIAR AND CAVIAR SUBSTITUTES PREPARED FROM FISH EGGS	1604	55.04	66.58	73.93	40.30
11	CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS AND OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES, PREPARED OR PRESERVED EXCLUDING SMOKED	1605	580.29	702.76	718.83	342.93
12	FLOURS MEALS AND PELLETS OF FISH CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS/OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES	230120	85.65	92.44	335.32	231.11
TOTAL			5957.37	7767.48	8073.03	3802.23

Source – DGCIS

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 661
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

EXPORT OF GEMS AND JEWELLERY

661. SHRI SELVAM G.:
SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:

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

- (a) the current status of the export of gems and jewellery in India;
- (b) whether there has been a decline in the export as compared to the previous year and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the gems and jewellery industry contributes significantly to the economy of the country being one of the major employment generating sectors and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the gems and jewellery industry has been facing several challenges in the last few years;
- (e) if so, the action taken by the Government during the last three years to improve the situation of this industry; and
- (f) the steps taken to promote and increase the business of the industries of Tamil Nadu related to the said industry?

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) Export of Gem and Jewellery during 2022-23 was at US\$38.11 billion, which is a decline of 2.95% compared to the previous year export of US\$39.27 billion.

(c) G&J exports constituted 8.45 % in the total merchandise exports during 2022-23 and the industry employs around 5 million skilled and semi-skilled workforce.

(d)&(e) Subdued demand in major export destinations such as USA, HongKong, Middle East and China and availability of raw materials at competitive rates were some of the challenges faced by the industry. The Government has taken steps to enhance Duty draw back rates on Gold and Silver to make the G&J exports globally competitive. Further, in order to promote indigenisation of technology in producing LGDs, a research project has been awarded to IIT Madras with an outlay of Rs. 242.96 crores over a period of 5 years.

(f) Financial support in the form of Market Access Initiatives(MAI) are provided to Export Promotion Councils. Exporter members of the sector are registered with Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council(GJEPC). There are 351 export members from Tamil Nadu who are registered with GJEPC who take part in various export promotion shows. A Common facility Centre(CFC) in Coimbatore was set up at a cost of Rs 3.64 crores during the year 2021. Export promotion seminars were conducted in Trichy, Madurai and Coimbatore during the year 2023.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 657
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

CONTROLLING OF NON-ESSENTIAL IMPORTS

657. SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:
SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:
SHRI DHAIRYASHEEL SAMBHAJIRAO MANE:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:

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

- (a) whether the steps taken by the Government to curb inbound shipments of certain goods, production-linked incentive scheme and mandatory quality norms is helping the country to reduce imports of non-essential products such as TV, tyres etc. and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the manner in which such a step of the Government is helpful in analysing and controlling non-essential imports and to augment domestic production capacity in import intensive sector in the country;
- (c) the total amount of revenue saved by the Government by reducing the import of non-essential goods during the last three years and the current fiscal year; and
- (d) whether the Government has held any consultation with the stakeholders in this regard and if so, the details thereof and their response thereto?

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) PLI Schemes are introduced with an objective to **make domestic manufacturing globally competitive has been implemented in 14 sectors. Mandatory** quality norm is put in place to ensure that customers have access to quality products that meet the necessary standards. These initiatives are expected to help the country in enhancing manufacturing capacity and reducing import of substandard products. In order to ensure that goods that are

imported are not of substandard quality, the customs authority follow a risk-based framework to intelligently prevent entry of non-compliant goods at the borders. A Task Force has also been constituted in CBIC for enforcing national standards.

As far as imported goods such as TVs and Tyre, are concerned, the trade data indicates that there are several categories of import of such products where there has been considerable reduction in imports or the imports have significantly low value in the overall import basket as given below:

Table: Imports of some specific commodities (Value in USD Million)

S. No.	HS Code	Commodity	2021-22	2022-23	Apr-Oct 2022	Apr-Oct 2023 (A)	Growth %
1	85287213	Television set of screen size exceeding 54 cm but not exceeding 68 cm	0.25	0.13	0.10	0.02	-76.08
2	85287214	Television set of screen size exceeding 68 cm but not exceeding 74 cm	0.00	0.07	0.07	0.04	-44.96
3	85287215	Colour TV set of screen size between 74 - 87 cm	0.20	0.17	0.12	0.03	-76.81
4	85287218	Liquid crystal display television set of screen size below 63 cm	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	85287219	LCD TV set; Other	14.54	28.19	20.70	20.04	-3.21
6	40111010	Radials tyres used on motor cars	95.33	52.06	33.70	28.06	-16.72
7	40111090	Tyres used on motor cars: Other	3.56	1.52	1.35	0.40	-70.24
8	40112010	Radials tyres used on buses/lorries	16.92	9.46	7.53	1.01	-86.65
9	40112090	Tyres used on buses/lorries: Other	0.63	0.40	0.22	0.12	-47.43
10	40114020	Tyres for motor scooters	0.01	0.95	0.69	0.46	-33.48
11	40115090	Tyres of a kind used for bicycles: Other	1.20	0.56	0.44	0.10	-77.90
12	40117000	Tyres used on agricultural or forestry vehicles and machines	1.21	1.23	0.59	0.53	-10.95

Source: DGCI&S. Data relating to April-October 2023 is provisional.

(b) and (c) as indicated in (a) above

(d) The Department of Commerce has been regularly monitoring and sensitizing line Ministries/Departments and other stakeholders from time to time and at various levels on the issue of imports on the following broad strategy: (i) Addressing domestic supply rigidities and looking at domestic production opportunities /enhancement of capacity; (ii) Timely use of trade remedy options; (iii) Quality Controls; (iv) Enforcing rules of origin; (v) Tariff measures /inverted duty correction; and vi) Import monitoring. Further, several steps have been taken by the Government with whole of Government approach to boost exports and reducing dependence on imports keeping in view India's increased integration in the global value chain.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 649
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

BOOSTING OF EXPORTS

649. SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI:
SHRIMATI MANJULATA MANDAL:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
DR. ANMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has been able to achieve the objective of boosting the export of agriculture, horticulture, plantation, fisheries and dairy sectors and if so, the details thereof along with the challenges faced in this regard;
- (b) the details of export of agriculture, horticulture, plantation, fisheries and dairy sector during each of the last three years and the quantum of foreign exchange earned;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating to identify districts possessing potential for particular industries and items for developing them as clusters for development of that sector and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether some other countries have evinced interest in investing in India's agriculture sector;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the extent to which it will be helpful to fetch good price for agricultural produce; and
- (f) the other measures taken by the Government to increase the income of farmers and the success achieved in this regard so far?

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 exports from agriculture sector; including horticulture, fisheries and dairy sectors, have registered a steady growth over the last three years. The main challenges faced in exports of agriculture products are lack of exportable surplus due to huge domestic consumption

base; price competitiveness; stringent quality requirements of the importing countries; market access issues etc.

(b) The details of export of agriculture, horticulture, plantation, fisheries and dairy sectors during each of the last three years and the quantum of foreign exchange earned are at **Annexure**.

(c) The Government has introduced District as Export Hub initiative with the objective to convert each District into a manufacturing and export hub by identifying products with export potential. Products/Services with export potential have been identified in all 733 Districts across the country. Institutional mechanism has been established in the form of State Export Promotion Committees (SEPCs) and District Export Promotion Committees (DEPCs), which have been constituted in all the 36 States/UTs to provide support and address the issues related to export growth in the districts.

(d) & (e) During the inaugural “I2U2” summit, held on July 14 2022, UAE made an announcement of \$2 billion investment towards construction of food parks in India that will leverage advanced agri tech, clean tech, and renewable energy technologies from Israel and the US. This initiative would provide farmers access to advanced technologies, which is likely to improve productivity and farmers’ realizations.

Further, India has received substantial Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) in agriculture & allied sectors over the past three years and the current year. Details are as under:

Amount in USD Million

Sr. No.	Sector	2020	2021	2022	2023 (Till SEP 2023)
1	FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES	464.42	700.20	850.09	558.78
2	AGRICULTURE SERVICES	88.83	223.27	215.04	334.02
3	AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY	157.07	17.40	993.87	0.61
4	VEGETABLE OILS AND VANASPATHI	43.33	8.33	12.07	5.77
5	SUGAR	25.00	0.55	0.21	7.44
6	TEA AND COFFEE (PROCESSING & WAREHOUSING)	9.07	4.66	70.88	7.44
	Grand Total	787.72	954.41	2142.16	914.06

Source: DPIIT

(f) Government has adopted and implemented several policies, reforms, developmental programmes and schemes for achieving higher incomes for the farmers directly or indirectly. The Government has made budgetary provisions to facilitate following efforts: -

1. Income support to farmers through PM KISAN
2. Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
3. Institutional credit for agriculture sector
4. Fixing of Minimum Support Price (MSP) at one-and-a half times the cost of production
5. Promotion of organic farming in the country
6. Per Drop More Crop
7. Micro Irrigation Fund
8. Promotion of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)
9. National Beekeeping and Honey Mission (NBHM)

10. Agricultural Mechanization
11. Providing Soil Health Cards to farmers
12. Setting up of National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) extension Platform
13. Launch of the National Mission for Edible Oils – Oil Palm
14. Agri Infrastructure Fund (AIF)
15. Improvement in farm produce logistics, Introduction of Kisan Rail.
16. Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) - Cluster Development Programme:
17. Creation of a Start-up Eco system in agriculture and allied sector
18. Achievement in Export of Agri and Allied Agri- Commodities

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 649 for answer on 06.12.2023

INDIA'S EXPORTS OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS							
Qty. in '000 units; Value in USD Million							
		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	
DESCRIPTION	Unit	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
TEA	KGS	212687.66	756.26	208614.16	751.07	241154.03	817.60
COFFEE	KGS	245209.80	719.66	333098.94	1020.74	316095.08	1146.18
RICE -BASMOTI	TON	4630.21	4018.41	3943.72	3537.49	4561.21	4787.65
RICE(OTHER THAN BASMOTI)	TON	13149.21	4810.80	17288.96	6133.63	17792.14	6356.71
WHEAT	TON	2154.97	567.93	7244.84	2122.13	4695.80	1520.46
OTHER CEREALS	TON	3075.66	705.38	3859.36	1087.39	3628.12	1194.07
PULSES	TON	276.93	265.57	387.21	359.41	762.67	661.41
TOBACCO UNMANUFACTURED	KGS	178296.61	517.54	196261.21	570.40	256192.84	822.23
TOBACCO MANUFACTURED	NA*	NA*	359.17	NA*	353.17	NA*	391.16
SPICES	KGS	1607058.51	3983.98	1427718.15	3896.03	1312263.29	3785.36
CASHEW	TON	70.11	420.43	75.45	453.08	59.59	356.31
CASHEW NUT SHELL LIQUID	KGS	3735.92	2.66	4943.65	4.36	17248.85	14.02
SESAME SEEDS	KGS	273260.32	425.64	242145.59	407.15	228654.70	425.91
NIGER SEEDS	KGS	19591.23	21.58	6030.08	8.30	7742.97	10.21
GROUNDNUT	TON	638.32	727.21	514.12	629.28	669.51	831.62
OTHER OIL SEEDS	TON	84.57	61.24	60.24	68.92	58.23	69.95
VEGETABLE OILS	TON	302.22	604.12	98.37	221.01	201.48	438.29
OIL MEALS	TON	4366.55	1585.04	2925.70	1031.94	4183.63	1601.72
GUERGAM MEAL	TON	234.88	262.99	322.33	447.61	406.53	617.14
CASTOR OIL	KGS	734336.46	917.24	715209.56	1175.50	645816.34	1265.64
SHELLAC	KGS	7876.26	87.83	8485.91	105.80	5442.10	105.62
SUGAR	TON	7517.92	2789.91	10457.08	4602.65	11755.64	5770.83
MOLLASES	TON	1317.68	178.75	1404.98	217.92	1623.23	256.84
FRUITS / VEGETABLE SEEDS	KGS	32285.42	125.16	20989.49	113.34	21445.76	118.42
FRESH FRUITS	TON	973.18	768.54	1166.44	877.22	1096.09	864.62
FRESH VEGETABLES	TON	2339.68	723.97	2468.40	815.26	3383.59	926.43
PROCESSED VEGETABLES	KGS	367098.92	424.70	308275.31	412.29	366511.83	508.97
PROCESSED FRUITS AND JUICES	KGS	532870.72	695.56	629704.18	778.30	620581.92	908.62
CEREAL PREPARATIONS	TON	403.99	636.97	415.53	652.49	480.75	752.66
COCOA PRODUCTS	KGS	25776.77	149.78	27323.31	153.68	34250.09	154.54
MILLED PRODUCTS	KGS	397056.20	207.13	699565.19	305.49	637759.06	289.02
MISC PROCESSED ITEMS	NA	NA*	866.04	NA*	1169.05	NA*	1421.64
ANIMAL CASINGS	KGS	13887.74	56.23	13826.91	63.54	12577.04	40.87
BUFFALO MEAT	TON	1085.61	3171.13	1175.33	3303.78	1175.53	3193.69
SHEEP/GOAT MEAT	TON	7.11	44.64	8.70	60.11	10.08	67.93
OTHER MEAT	TON	0.89	2.47	1.95	6.11	0.76	2.45
PROCESSED MEAT	TON	0.78	1.71	0.47	1.55	0.34	1.59
DAIRY PRODUCTS	KGS	118334.27	323.09	191954.02	634.89	156954.93	589.32
POULTRY PRODUCTS	NA	NA*	58.70	NA*	71.04	NA*	134.04
FLORICLTR PRODUCTS	KGS	15695.02	77.84	23695.48	103.61	21052.79	88.46
NATURAL RUBBER	TON	11.34	16.67	3.56	7.24	3.70	6.40
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	LTR	250333.16	330.22	200921.15	274.07	234970.87	325.01
MARINE PRODUCTS	KGS	1167758.16	5962.39	1398014.07	7772.36	1754204.51	8077.98
AYUSH AND HERBAL PRODUCTS	KGS	120558.43	539.88	126112.13	612.12	122520.85	628.54
COTTON RAW INCLD. WASTE	TON	1213.98	1897.21	1258.63	2816.24	318.47	781.43
TOTAL			41869.37		50208.74		53129.55

Source: DGCI&S

* Quantitative details are not available for these products.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 645
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

EXPORT HUBS

645. SHRI PARTHIBAN S.R.:
SHRI VELUSAMY P. :

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

- (a) whether the Government is taking measures to promote districts as export hubs in the country aimed at targeting export promotion, manufacturing and employment generation at the grassroots level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the proposed export hubs in the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the details of progress made in this regard;
- (d) the employment potential in this regard; and
- (e) the proposed measures to be taken 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) to (e) The Government has taken measures to promote exports from the districts under the Districts Export Hub initiative. All the districts of Tamil Nadu have been included under the Districts as Export Hubs initiative. Products/Services with export potential have been identified in these districts under the initiative. An institutional mechanism has been set up in States/UTs by forming State Export Promotion Committee (SEPC) and Districts Export

Promotion Committee (DEPC) at the District level. District Export Action Plans under “Districts as Export Hubs” detailing the existing bottlenecks in the supply chain and identifying possible interventions to mitigate the existing gaps are being prepared by the districts. These outline the support required by the local exporters and manufacturers to seamlessly export the identified products and services by supporting new business to export and generating employment opportunities in the districts. To encourage exports from the districts under “Districts as Export Hubs initiative”, export promotion outreach events are being held in various districts. This includes handholding sessions with exporters and export related awareness sessions with exporters along with the representatives of various related agencies/departments such as Department of Posts, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), Banks, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), Export Promotion Councils, Local Trade Associations/Chambers, District Industries Centres, etc. Further, there is a huge employment potential especially with the proposed implementation of e-commerce exports.

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

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 642
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

CAPPING PRICES OF BASMATI RICE

642. SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that imposing an economic curb on the export of Basmati rice by capping Minimum Export Price at \$1200 per tonne has impacted the income of Punjab farmers adversely, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that farmers sow Basmati because of its demands in foreign markets
- (c) if so, the reasons for the Government taking regressive steps to limit the sale of Basmati within the country;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that this will resultantly bring down prices of Basmati in the country and Basmati of Pakistan will be available to foreign buyers at competitive prices;
- (e) if so, the long term rationale and exigency behind the decision;
- (f) whether the Government is planning to give relief to the farmers by allowing them to earn by sale of their produce instead of imposing unilateral arbitrary restrictions on sale of farm produce like Basmati; and
- (g) if so, the plan chalked out 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) to (g) The price cap on export of Basmati rice was not aimed at restricting its exports. The Government had received credible field reports to the effect that non-basmati white rice, export of which has been prohibited with effect from 20th July 2023, was being exported under the HS code of Basmati rice. In order to control illegal exports of non-basmati rice, the Government, on 26th August 2023, issued directions to the Agriculture & Processed

Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) to register contracts for Basmati exports only with the value of USD 1200 per MT and above. After extensive stakeholders' consultations, the Government has decided to reduce the base price for registration of contracts by APEDA to USD 950 per MT, with effect from 26th October 2023.

The price restriction on export of Basmati rice has not impacted its exports, as is reflected in month-wise comparison of exports during 2022-23 and 2023-24 (up to October) detailed below:

Export of Basmati Rice				
Qty. in lakh MT; Value in USD Million				
	2022-23		2023-24	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
April	3.20	324.16	4.25	470.23
May	3.66	374.09	4.05	446.88
June	4.40	459.43	3.42	381.43
July	3.80	409.31	4.37	475.07
August	3.70	408.15	4.01	451.09
September	2.80	303.21	2.98	365.29
October	2.54	266.18	3.01	368.54
TOTAL	24.10	2544.53	26.08	2958.52
Source: DGCI&S				

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 636
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

GeM PORTAL

636. SHRIMATI SUNITA DUGGAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has details about value of procurement from GeM portal since FY 2019 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has details of MSMEs participating in fulfillment of orders on GeM portal;
- (c) if so, the State/UT-wise details thereof, particularly for Haryana;
- (d) whether the Government has details of top ten MSMEs based on their order value processed on portal; 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) Order value placed on GeM portal since FY 2019 are tabulated below -

Financial Year	Order Value (INR - Cr.)
FY 23-24	2,07,676 (as on 27.11.2023)
FY 22-23	2,01,439
FY 21-22	1,06,662
FY 20-21	38,565
FY 19-20	22,886
FY 18-19	17,445

(b)& (c) The details of Order value awarded to MSE Sellers from 01.04.2018 to 27.11.2023 is:

Sl. No.	State/UT	Order Value (INR)
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	483
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	3,894
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	286
4	ASSAM	5,125
5	BIHAR	4,494
6	CHANDIGARH	2,803
7	CHHATTISGARH	6,049
8	DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI and DAMAN AND DIU	360
9	DELHI	51,379
10	GOA	456
11	GUJARAT	21,416
12	HARYANA	12,558
13	HIMACHAL PRADESH	1,188
14	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	5,599
15	JHARKHAND	5,444
16	KARNATAKA	11,243
17	KERALA	3,243
18	LADAKH	292
19	LAKSHADWEEP	2
20	MADHYA PRADESH	12,690
21	MAHARASHTRA	35,800
22	MANIPUR	294
23	MEGHALAYA	565
24	MIZORAM	19
25	NAGALAND	129
26	ORISSA	5,237
27	PUDUCHERRY	161
28	PUNJAB	7,180
29	RAJASTHAN	7,810
30	SIKKIM	82
31	TAMIL NADU	11,657
32	TELANGANA	10,384
33	TRIPURA	180
34	UTTAR PRADESH	38,351
35	UTTARAKHAND	3,092
36	WEST BENGAL	20,008

As stated above the order value for Haryana State is Rs. 12,558 Crore from 01.04.2018 to 27.11.2023.

(d) & (e) No, Sir. The list of top 10 MSEs is dynamic and keeps on changing with every order placed on GeM portal. Further the status of MSEs keep changing as per their turnover.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 586
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

GST ON ONLINE GAMES

586. SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:

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

- (a) the details of the impact of imposing 28% GST on the full contest entry amount for online games of skill on the sector's exports and global competitiveness;
- (b) whether the imposition of 28% GST on the full contest entry amount for online games of skill will affect the export potential of Indian gaming companies, and if so, the details of measures that are being taken to address this impact;
- (c) whether there are any proposals to engage with the industry stakeholders to understand their concerns regarding the high GST rate for online gaming and explore potential solutions to mitigate its adverse effects; 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) A Group of Ministers (GoM) on Casinos, Race Courses and Online gaming was set up to study the matter in detail. Stakeholders consultations were conducted as part of GoM deliberations. The report of the GoM was presented in the 50th GST Council meeting and after detailed deliberations, the GST Council in the 50th meeting held on 11th July, 2023 has clarified that 28% GST shall be levied on actionable claims supplied in online gaming, irrespective of whether the underlying activities are games of skill or games of chance. GST rates and exemptions are prescribed on the recommendations of GST Council which is a constitutional body comprising members from Union Government and State/UT Governments.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 577
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

CARDAMOM BOARD

577. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:

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

- (a) whether the Government will interfere immediately to arrest the drop in prices of Cardamom;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including steps taken in the last ten years to stop drop in prices;
- (c) whether the Government will institute a new Cardamom Board after separating it from the Spices Board and accord it with necessary resources to function;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes setting up of a National Cardamom Board along the lines of National Turmeric Board;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether the Government will ensure minimum support price for Cardamom; and
- (h) 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 weighted average auction prices of cardamom(small) for the last two crop seasons and the current crop season are given below:

Crop Season (Aug-July)	Weighted average auction price of cardamom(small) (Rs/kg)
2021-22	934.94
2022-23	1088.51
2023-24(Aug-Oct)*	1828.52

Source: Spices Board (* Provisional)

The prices of cardamom (small) have shown an increasing trend from 2021-22 onwards.

(b) The price of Cardamom is determined in the open market based on supply and demand. However, Spices Board has taken the following steps to improve price realization for Cardamom growers:

- i. Spices Board supports the growers through development programmes including quality planting material production, replanting, irrigation development, improved cardamom curing devices, quality improvement and capacity building programmes.
- ii. Spices Board has introduced cloud based e-auction for cardamom by linking two e-auction centres i.e. Puttady in Idukki District of Kerala and Bodinayaknur in Tamil Nadu.
- iii. Spices Board regularly conducts Buyer Seller Meets and Market Linkage programmes to encourage the cardamom farmers/ farmers groups / FPOs to establish direct market linkage with exporters, processors and Institutional buyers.
- iv. The Board supports the exporters under Board's export promotion schemes viz. Participation in International Trade fairs, brand promotion, etc. for enhancing the exports leading to increase in domestic price of cardamom.
- v. Minimum Import Price for Cardamom at Rs.500/- per kg was issued vide notification No 109/2009-2014 to reduce the possible import of low quality cardamom from other origins aimed at strengthening the demand for domestic produce.
- vi. The Board facilitates the growers and their producer societies in getting Authorized User (AU) certificate for GI tagged cardamoms viz. Alleppey Green Cardamom and Coorg Green Cardamom. The AU Certificate helps the growers and their societies to get better price for the GI tagged cardamom.
- vii. The Board has introduced Special Auction for Lab tested cardamom from October 2022 onwards to facilitate a separate marketing channel for cardamom tested in lab for pesticides and artificial colours. The special e-auction facilitates sourcing of good quality cardamom for export markets and thereby helps the growers in better price realization.
- viii. The Board facilitates the growers and their producer societies in showcasing their products in the major national exhibitions through participation in Board's stall.
- ix. A weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme for Small Cardamom in Idukki district of Kerala was launched as a pilot project to protect Small Cardamom growers against the adverse weather incidences.

(c) to (f) Presently, no such proposal is under consideration. Spices Board was constituted under the Spices Board Act, 1986, by merging the erstwhile Cardamom Board & Spices Export Promotion Council. The mandate for Spices Board includes research, production, development, domestic marketing, consumption and export promotion of Cardamom (Small & Large) along with export promotion of 51 other spices.

(g) & (h) The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare recommends Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the notified commodities. These commodities are mostly items of mass consumption of all India nature with fairly long shelf life and/or necessary for food/nutrition security. At present, cardamom is not covered under the notified commodities coming under the purview of CACP.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.561
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

BAN ON EXPORT OF NON-BASMATI RICE

561. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU:

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

- (a) whether the Government has imposed a ban on export of non-basmati rice in the last few months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the estimated loss to the Government as a result thereof and the details of other export of foods items were banned;
- (c) whether some countries have requested to revoke the ban;
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon; and
- (e) 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): Yes, Sir. The Government vide DGFT's Notification No. 20/2023 dated 20.07.2023 has amended the Export Policy of Non-Basmati White Rice (semi milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed: Other) under ITC HS Code 1006 3090 from "free" to "prohibited".

The Government prohibited export of Non-Basmati White Rice in view of uncertainty around rice production in India and other rice producing countries due to geo-political scenario, El Nino sentiments and extreme climatic conditions, in order to control domestic prices and to ensure adequate availability of Non-Basmati White Rice in the domestic market for delivery to the common man. There has been reduction in export of Non-Basmati White Rice during the current year, however, there has been no loss to the Government.

The details of other export of foods items, which were “prohibited” by the Government, are as under:-

- (i) Export of Broken Rice (ITC HS Code 1006 4000) vide DGFT’s Notification No. 07/2023 dated 24.05.2023.
- (ii) Export of Wheat (ITC HS Code 1001) vide DGFT’s Notification No. 06/2015-20 dated 13.05.2022.
- (iii) Export of Wheat Flour (Atta), Maida, Samolina (Rava/ Sirgi), Wholemeal Atta and Resultant Atta (ITC HS Code 1101) vide DGFT’s Notification No. 30/2015-20 dated 27.08.2022.

(c) to (e): No specific request has been received.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 552
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

EXPORT OF TOYS

552. SHRI KESINENI SRINIVAS:

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

- (a) the data on the export value of indigenous toys from India in the last five years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is taking any specific initiatives to promote the exports of indigenous toys from India, including Kondapalli toys from Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are any financial incentives and input subsidies targeted at artisans in the indigenous toy industry;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to initiate a Production Linked Incentive scheme for the domestic toy industry; 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) State/UT-wise value of export of toys (under ITC – HS 4 digit level 9503, 9504, 9505) during last five years are given at **Annexure**.
- (b) to (d) Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) is implementing Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) and as a part of SFURTI scheme, 2 clusters, viz. Kondapalli Toy cluster, Andhra Pradesh and Sagara

woodcrafts toy cluster benefitting 781 artisans with an assistance of Rs. 3.62 cr have been supported. Further, 13 clusters from Rajasthan, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, M.P. and U.P. have been approved with an assistance of Rs. 40.42 cr and benefitting 8797 artisans. Ministry of Textiles has identified 13 clusters to develop and provide marketing platforms. These clusters are located at Channapatna, Kinhal, Kondapalli, Etikopaka, Nirmal, Tanjore, Cudappah, Varanasi Chitrakoot, Jaipur, Dhubri, Bishnupur and Indore. Various Training Programmes are being conducted there. More than 200 artisans from these clusters participated in the Toy Fair, 2021 (on Virtual Mode).

Further, Government of India has taken the following measures to promote India's export including indigenous toys:

- (i) New Foreign Trade Policy has been launched on 31st March, 2023 and came in to effect from 1st April, 2023.
- (ii) Under the Market Access Initiative Scheme, financial assistance upto 90% is provided for Toys etc. for organising/participation in fairs/exhibitions/Buyer Seller Meets/Reverse Buyer Seller Meets, publicity campaign and brand promotion. Besides, 50% of the expenditure incurred by the exporters towards Testing of Toys is also reimbursed as per Scheme guidelines.
- (iii) To compensate the Exporters for the non-creditable duty/tax costs (such as Electricity Tax, Stamp duty, Mandi Fee, Tax on fuel, etc.) that are embedded in the export goods, the export items of toys falling under HS Code 9503, 9504 and 9505 are eligible for the rate of new scheme for Remission of Duties or Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP).
- (iv) In order to restrict import of toys of undesirable quality and prices, sample testing of imported toys has been made mandatory and a Quality Control Order on toys under BIS Act has also been issued. Further, Basic Customs Duty rates on toys and its parts have been increased from 60% to 70% in Budget 2023-24.
- (v) Under the District Export Promotion Hub initiative, twelve districts with Toy clusters have been identified for export promotion. Eight categories of toys, including Kondapalli Toys, have got the GI tag.
- (vi) Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been launched to facilitate trade and increase Free Trade Agreement (FTA) utilization by exporters.
- (vii) Active role of Indian missions abroad towards promoting India's trade, tourism, technology and investment goals has been enhanced.

- (viii) 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.
- (e) & (f) The issue of expanding the PLI scheme for new sectors is yet to be decided.

Annexure

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 552 for answer on 6th December 2023.

State/UT-wise value of export of toys (under ITC – HS 4 digit level 9503, 9504, 9505) during last five years

(Value in 1000 US\$)

S. No	State	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
1	Uttar Pradesh	46677.1	49461.3	47948.6	75818.7	85424.1
2	Maharashtra	56159.3	76305.0	66915.8	78105.4	61658.6
3	Karnataka	31326.8	36486.2	48183.0	63423.1	56322.3
4	Tamil Nadu	4729.1	8438.9	13676.4	18912.6	23553.1
5	Haryana	13284.7	16934.9	15126.8	20283.1	22276.6
6	Delhi	16361.1	15798.7	12227.2	17607.1	21108.0
7	Rajasthan	8101.5	8442.4	10659.5	15429.1	19170.2
8	Gujarat	5251.9	7775.8	6385.6	16236.9	12261.9
9	Punjab	4419.2	4149.7	5412.2	7379.7	7006.7
10	Kerala	2389.5	2755.0	2641.7	3668.7	6088.2
11	Goa	8815.3	8655.4	5483.5	4279.2	2803.4
12	West Bengal	1137.3	1085.1	1251.8	1789.2	1725.1
13	Telangana	332.7	191.1	196.2	786.5	1286.3
14	Andhra Pradesh	3376.7	1377.9	1570.6	654.5	1186.4
15	Jammu & Kashmir	94.0	115.9	329.9	503.7	789.2
16	Madhya Pradesh	15.8	76.6	159.4	386.9	577.7
17	Chandigarh	193.7	239.7	197.5	390.4	282.8
18	Bihar	164.8	191.9	194.6	214.3	167.7
19	Uttarakhand	18.6	116.2	74.8	76.0	54.9
20	Odisha	0.0	0.7	0.0	2.9	34.6
21	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.0	0.2	4.2	126.6	27.2
22	Assam	0.5	17.1	14.9	30.4	22.5
23	Daman & Diu	65.9	42.1	0.0	4.0	19.2
24	Puducherry	3.8	10.2	11.5	12.6	18.6
25	Chattisgarh	13.7	11.9	20.7	2.4	15.8
26	Jharkhand	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	1.5
27	Himachal Pradesh	0.9	2.4	1.1	0.0	0.0
28	Manipur	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
29	Unspecified	530.5	63.7	272.9	501.9	1849.9
	Total Export	203464.4	238746.7	238960.5	326626.2	325732.3

Source: DGCI&S

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.551
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

AMALGAMATION OF OFFICES

**551. SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI KUNDARIYA:
SHRI DIPSINH SHANKARSINH RATHOD:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has received a representation requesting to amalgamate offices such as CGST, SGST, DGFT, Customs/Labour, DIC under one roof/premises as a plug and play facility at Rajkot; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the time likely to be taken 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) Yes, Sir.
- (b) No such proposal is under consideration as of now.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.530
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

IMPORTS

530. DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE:

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

- (a) whether the high imports affect the country's foreign currency exchange rates;
- (b) if so, whether it is a fact that production-linked incentive scheme and mandatory quality norms are helping the country reduce imports of nonessential products such as TV, tyres, wallpaper and AC gas compressors;
- (c) if so, the facts in this regard and the extent to which import of such goods has been reduced after implementation of production linked incentive scheme;
- (d) whether the Central Government is sensitizing all other Ministries to see areas where we have competitiveness and where we can increase our manufacturing and cut import of those goods;
- (e) if so, the facts in this regard; and
- (f) the other steps taken by the Central Government to reduce the current trade deficit?

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 exchange rate of rupee is market determined and is a function of multiple factors.
- (b) The objective of the PLI Schemes is to make domestic manufacturing globally competitive and the objective of mandatory quality norm is to ensure that customers have access to quality products that meet the necessary standards. Both the initiatives are expected to help the country in enhancing production capacity and reducing substandard products

(c) As far as imported goods such as TVs, Tyre, Wallpaper, and AC gas compressors are concerned, the trade data indicated that there are several categories of import of such products where there has been considerable reduction in imports or the imports have significantly low value in the overall import basket as given below:

Table: Imports of some specific commodities (Value in USD Million)

S. No.	HS Code	Commodity	2021-22	2022-23	Apr-Oct 2022	Apr-Oct 2023 (A)	Growth %
1	85287213	Television set of screen size exceeding 54 cm but not exceeding 68 cm	0.25	0.13	0.10	0.02	-76.08
2	85287214	Television set of screen size exceeding 68 cm but not exceeding 74 cm	0.00	0.07	0.07	0.04	-44.96
3	85287215	Colour TV set of screen size between 74 - 87 cm	0.20	0.17	0.12	0.03	-76.81
4	85287219	LCD TV set; Other	14.54	28.19	20.70	20.04	-3.21
5	40111010	Radials tyres used on motor cars	95.33	52.06	33.70	28.06	-16.72
6	40111090	Tyres used on motor cars: Other	3.56	1.52	1.35	0.40	-70.24
7	40112010	Radials tyres used on buses/lorries	16.92	9.46	7.53	1.01	-86.65
8	40112090	Tyres used on buses/lorries: Other	0.63	0.40	0.22	0.12	-47.43
9	40114020	Tyres for motor scooters	0.01	0.95	0.69	0.46	-33.48
10	40115090	Tyres of a kind used for bicycles: Other	1.20	0.56	0.44	0.10	-77.90
11	40117000	Tyres used on agricultural or forestry vehicles and machines	1.21	1.23	0.59	0.53	-10.95
12	48142000	Wallpaper and similar wall coverings of paper, consisting of paper coated or covered	38.14	212.86	85.29	14.19	-83.36
13	48149000	Wallpaper and similar wallcoverings of paper, and window transparencies of paper	4.77	4.23	2.51	2.30	-8.49
14	84148011	Gas compressors of a kind used in air-conditioning equipment	440.25	568.58	264.32	238.52	-9.76

Source: DGCI&S, Figures are provisional and as per latest data available.

(d) & (e) The Department of Commerce has been regularly monitoring and sensitizing line Ministries/Departments and other stakeholders from time to time and at various levels on the issue of imports on the following broad strategy: (i) Addressing domestic supply rigidities and looking at domestic production opportunities /enhancement of capacity; (ii) Timely use of trade remedy options; (iii) Quality Controls; (iv) Enforcing rules of origin; (v) Tariff measures /inverted duty correction; and vi) Import monitoring.

(f) Several steps have been taken by the Government to boost exports and reducing dependence on imports keeping in view India's increased integration in the global value chain. Some of the measures includes, easing trade processes through digital platforms, and negotiating free trade agreements (FTAs) with various countries and blocs to enhance market access for Indian products. Regular monitoring of export performance with Commercial Missions abroad, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards/ Authorities and Industry Associations is being done and corrective measures are being taken from time to time. Further, New Foreign Trade Policy has been launched on 31st March, 2023 and came in to effect from 1st April, 2023. The policy lays down a blue print to integrate India with the global market and make it a reliable and trusted trade partner. It will further improve India's trade performance and competitiveness.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.510
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/12/2023

TEA INDUSTRY

510. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

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

- (a) the details of subsidies and financial assistance provided to the tea industry in the last three years in the districts of Darjeeling, Kalimpong and North Dinajpur; and
- (b) the details of assistance provided for small and independent tea growers and entrepreneurs in Darjeeling, Kalimpong and North Dinajpur districts of West Bengal?

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) Financial assistance of Rs. 15.39 crores has been provided to the tea industry stakeholders in the districts of Darjeeling, Kalimpong and North Dinajpur through various activities under the Tea Development & Promotion Scheme implemented by the Tea Board during last three years (2020-21 to 2022-23).
- (b) Financial assistance of Rs. 1.53 crores has been provided to the small tea growers and entrepreneurs in the districts of Darjeeling, Kalimpong and North Dinajpur under Tea Development & Promotion Scheme during last three years (2020-21 to 2022-23).
