

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 305
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2025

Gains Made by Indian Exporters

305. SMT. RACHNA BANERJEE:

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to provide detailed assessment of the gains made by Indian exporters and manufacturers since the signing of the India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in 2022;
- (b) the specific sectors that have witnessed significant growth in exports to the UAE post-CEPA;
- (c) whether there are any support being provided to MSMEs to tap into these opportunities, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of the list of Indian products that have benefited from tariff reductions under CEPA and the manner in which this has impacted competitiveness in the UAE market?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) The India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) was signed on 18 February 2022 and came into force on 1 May 2022. The Agreement provides significant benefits to Indian and UAE businesses, including enhanced market access and reduced tariffs. Since the signing of CEPA, India-UAE bilateral trade has witnessed robust growth and diversification with trade increasing from 72.87 USD billion in FY 2021-22 to USD 100.06 billion in FY 2024-25. Since signing of the Agreement, India has engaged continuously with the UAE side through regular high-

level meetings like the Joint Committee, established as an institutional mechanism to take stock of the implementation of CEPA. The Trade in Goods Committee has also met several times to address issues related to bilateral trade. Both sides have taken concrete steps to operationalize various other Sub-Committees as well to deliberate on issues related to trade in services, rules of origin, customs procedure and trade facilitation.

(b) Our merchandise exports to UAE have grown from 28.04 billion USD in 2021-22 to 36.63 billion USD in 2024-25 exhibiting a growth of 7% . Key sectors that have seen increase in exports from India since CEPA came into force are Engineering Goods, Gems & Jewellery, Agricultural Products, Marine products, Pharma and Electronics goods.

(c) Under the provisions of the CEPA, India stands to benefit from preferential market access provided by the UAE covering several sectors important to MSMEs. Ministry of MSME has constituted a Joint SME Committee under the provision of bilateral CEPA, to promote partnership between the SMEs of both sides and identify ways to assist SMEs in taking advantage of the commercial opportunities arising from India-UAE CEPA. Through Market Access Initiative (MAI) Schemes, MSMEs are provided financial help which acts as a catalyst to promote India's exports on a sustained basis to targeted countries including UAE. Ministry of MSME, through its International Cooperation (IC) Scheme had facilitated participation by India MSME delegations of MSME representatives in various international trade-fairs/exhibitions held in UAE.

(d) The CEPA between India and the UAE covers almost all tariff lines of India (11,908) and the UAE (7,581) respectively. 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 which includes gems and jewellery, Textiles, leather, footwear, sports goods, plastics, furniture, agricultural and wood products, engineering products, medical devices and Automobiles.
