

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 215
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR 2022

*215. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU:
SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:

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

- (a) the total number of traders from within the country and abroad who participated, the number of general public and business visitors who attended along with the volume of trade generated and the revenue earned by the Government in the recently concluded India International Trade Fair 2022, Delhi;
- (b) whether the business generated through the Fair during the year is much higher in comparison with the last three years and the target fixed for 2023;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed by the Government to further improve the trade in the coming years and also to provide better facilities to the visitors;
- (d) whether it is also proposed to extend the duration of the Fair in the coming years to cope with the huge response from the trading community and the general public; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

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

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 215 FOR ANSWER ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022
REGARDING “INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR 2022”.**

(a): India International Trade Fair (IITF) was organised by India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) at Pragati Maidan from 14th November, 2022 to 27th November, 2022 for a period of 14 days.

Domestic:

A total of 29 Indian States/UTs (Annexure I) and 53 Government Ministries / Departments / PSUs, etc. (Annexure II) participated in the event through their respective pavilions, in addition to private participants. The total number of exhibitors, including direct as well as through various government departments / agencies is estimated to be around 3200.

Foreign:

Around 57 Exhibitors from 13 countries participated in IITF 2022. This includes exhibitors from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, China, Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Nepal, Republic of Türkiye, Thailand, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Vietnam.

Visitors:

Total number of visitors to IITF were around 10 lakh which included approximately 328 overseas trade visitors and around 66,057 domestic business visitors.

Volume of Trade:

ITPO does not compile the volume of trade generated during the fair. However, based on the number of visitors to the event and general feedback from the exhibitors, it is expected that business of approximately Rs. 900-1000 crores was generated in IITF.

Revenue Generated by Government from IITF 2022:

ITPO does not keep record of transactions taking place. Therefore, no estimate is available of GST/ revenue earned by the Government on transactions carried out by the exhibitors. Provisional estimates of revenue earned by ITPO is Rs. 65 crores.

(b): ITPO does not compile the volume of business generated during the fair. The business transacted is expected to be higher as compared to last year on account of increase in number of participants in the fair. However, some of the details indicating response to IITF is given in Annexure-III.

(c) : ITPO proposes to attract more overseas participation in the event to promote international trade and also to promote digital and cashless transactions for ease of doing business. Further, a new International Exhibition cum Convention Centre (IECC) is being developed by ITPO. This will provide opportunity to more number of exhibitors to participate in various events organised by ITPO including IITF.

(d) & (e) : At present there is no plan to extend the duration of the fair. IITF is a 14-day exhibition which is considered to be an optimum duration to maintain the interest of visitors and the industry in the fair.

Annexure I

List of States and Union Territories which participated in IITF, 2022

S.No.	Name of States/ Union Territories
1	ANDHRA PRADESH
2	ASSAM
3	BIHAR
4	CHANDIGARH
5	CHHATTISGARH
6	DELHI
7	GOA
8	GUJARAT
9	HARYANA
10	HIMACHAL PRADESH
11	J & K
12	JHARKHAND
13	KARNATAKA
14	KERALA
15	LADAKH
16	MADHYA PRADESH
17	MAHARASHTRA
18	MANIPUR
19	NAGALAND
20	ODISHA
21	PUNJAB
22	PUDUCHERRY
23	RAJASTHAN
24	SIKKIM
25	TAMIL NADU
26	TRIPURA
27	UTTAR PRADESH
28	UTTRAKHAND
29	WEST BENGAL

IIITF' 2022 – List of Ministries/ Government Departments

S. No.	Company Name
1	Bhakhra Beas Management Board
2	Bureau of Energy Efficiency
3	Canara Bank
4.	Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM)
5	Central Bank of India
6	Central Bureau of Communication (CBC)
7	Central Ground Water Board
8	Central Warehousing Corporation
9	Coconut Development Board
10	Coir Board
11	Damodar Valley Corporation
12	Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
13	Department of Science & Technology
14	Development Commissioner (Handicraft)
15	Directorate General of Taxpayers Services
16	Directorate of Income Tax (Printing, Publication & Publicity)
17	Fit India Mission
18	Hindustan Salts Limited
19	Indian Bank
20	Joint Plant Committee
21	Khadi & Village Industries Commission
22	Life Insurance Corporation of India
23	Ministry of AYUSH
24	Ministry of Communication, Department of Posts
25	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
26.	Ministry of Railways

27.	Ministry of Tourism
28.	National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED)
29.	National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC)
30.	National Handloom Development Corporation Limited
31.	National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj
32.	National Jute Board
33.	National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation
34.	National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC)
35.	NEEPCO Ltd.
36.	NHPC Ltd.
37.	NTPC Limited
38.	Office of Development Commissioner (MSME),
39.	Pharmaceuticals & Medical Devices Bureau of India
40.	Power Grid Corporation of India
41.	Punjab National Bank
42.	REC Ltd.
43.	Reserve Bank of India
44.	Securities and Exchange Board of India
45.	Security Printing & Minting Corporation of India Ltd.
46.	SJVN Limited
47.	Spices Board India
48.	State Bank of India
49.	Tea Board
50.	THDC India Limited
51.	Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India (TRIFED)
52.	Union Bank of India
53.	Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority

Annexure III

Post Show Report

Name of Event	India International Trade Fair (IITF)
Edition	41 st Edition
Dates	14-27 November, 2022
Gross Area	73,000 sq.mtrs. approx.
Net Exhibition Area	38,009 sq.mtrs.
Exhibitors	
Total Number of Exhibitors	3200 approx.
Number of State / UT Pavilions	29
Number of Govt. Ministries / Departments / PSUs / etc.	53
Number of Countries	13
Number of Foreign Participants	57
Number of MSMEs	1258
Number of Women Entrepreneurs	675
Number of Artisans	425
Visitors	
Total Number of Visitors	10 lakhs approximately
Business Visitors	66057
Overseas Trade Visitors	328

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2301
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

INDIA-AUSTRALIA BILATERAL TRADE

2301(H). SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA:

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

- (a) whether any plan has been chalked out by the Government to boost India-Australia bilateral trade and investment and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of the measures being taken to give common citizens an opportunity to invest in the infrastructure sector?

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 boost trade and investment between India and Australia, the India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) was negotiated and signed on 2 April 2022. It will enter into force on 29 December 2022. Details on Ind-AusECTA are available in the Department of Commerce' website at the following link <https://commerce.gov.in/international-trade/trade-agreements/ind-aus-ecta/>

Government has also successfully negotiated with the Government of Australia the amendment of Australian domestic taxation law to stop the taxation of offshore income of Indian IT firms providing technical services to Australia. This would enhance their competitiveness and serve to enhance their business revenues.

India and Australia are engaged in negotiation for an international agreement on Investment.

A desk of Invest India in Australia is also in pipeline to boost the trade and investment.

(b): The Government has launched India Investment Grid (IIG) (<https://indiainvestmentgrid.gov.in/>), a searchable dynamic portal that showcases both public and private sector investible projects from across all sectors in India. IIG acts as a free

opportunity discovery platform, allowing potential investors to connect directly with project owners/manager. The National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) is also exclusively hosted on IIG.

SEBI has taken measures to allow the common citizens to invest in the infrastructure sector through Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvITs) and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) Regulations, 2014, as amended from time to time.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2313
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

TRADE WITH GCC

2313(H). SHRI NABA KUMAR SARANIA:

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

- (a) whether India's trade with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is increasing rapidly;
- (b) if so, the details of India's total exports to Gulf countries during the last five years;
- (c) the details of India's needs and requirements which form the basis of India's trade with Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC);
- (d) whether non-resident Indians live in nearly half of the total area of the Gulf countries, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether India and Qatar have launched a Startup Bridge between Invest India and Invest Qatar to move forward in the Startup sector, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether Assam tea is also exported to these Gulf countries, 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): Bilateral Trade between India and the GCC grew from US\$ 87.35 billion in FY 2020-21 to US\$ 154.66 billion in FY 2021-22, registering an increase of 77.06% on a year-on-year basis. During the current FY 2022-23, for the period April-October 2022, bilateral trade between India and the GCC stood at US\$ 111.71 billion, up from US\$ 79.49 billion during the same period in FY 2021-22. This is an increase of 40.53% on a year-on-year basis. During the period FY 2017-18 to FY 2021-22, bilateral trade between India and the GCC has grown by 10.57% on a compounded annual growth rate basis.

(b): Details of India's exports to the GCC during the last five financial years is as follows:

India's Exports to GCC							
Values in USD Billion							
Sl.No.	Country	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	Apr-Oct 2022
1	BAHRAIN	0.56	0.74	0.56	0.53	0.90	0.45
2	KUWAIT	1.37	1.33	1.29	1.05	1.24	0.85
3	OMAN	2.44	2.25	2.26	2.36	3.15	2.77
4	QATAR	1.47	1.61	1.27	1.28	1.84	1.14
5	SAUDI ARABIA	5.41	5.56	6.24	5.86	8.76	6.20
6	UAE	28.15	30.13	28.85	16.68	28.04	18.25
	GCC Total	39.39	41.62	40.47	27.76	43.93	29.66

Source: DGCIS

(c): India and the six GCC countries are members of the multilateral trading system, the World Trade Organisation (WTO). India and the UAE recently concluded a bilateral Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) that entered into force on 01 May 2022. Like any other partner country in the WTO/ bilateral Free Trade Agreements, trade with GCC countries also entails adhering to relevant customs laws and procedures of India and the respective partner countries under the existing trade Agreements, which includes, inter alia, customs duties, technical standards, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, export and import licencing measures, labelling, packaging and marketing requirements, and any other relevant rules and regulations of India and the partner countries.

(d): As per last figures provided by local authorities in Gulf countries, the estimated number of non-resident Indians (NRIs) currently residing in Gulf countries is as follows:

Sl.No.	Country	Estimated No. of NRIs residing in the country
1.	Bahrain	3.08 lakh
2.	Kuwait	9.24 lakh
3.	Oman	6.53 lakh
4.	Qatar	8.44 lakh
5.	Saudi Arabia	21.60 lakh
6.	United Arab Emirates	35.54 lakh

(e): Yes, Sir. A Startup Bridge has been launched in collaboration with Invest India, the Embassy of India in Doha, Qatar, and Invest Qatar. The India-Qatar Startup Bridge was launched by the then Hon'ble Vice President, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu during the India-Qatar Business Forum held in Doha on 5th June 2022. The collaboration of these two fast-paced and ever-growing ecosystems will result in long-term economic growth and prosperity for both countries. More information of this Startup Bridge is available online on the following:

<https://www.startupindia.gov.in/content/sih/en/international/india-qatar-bridge.html>

(f): Yes, Sir. Indian tea, including Assam tea, is exported to the GCC. In FY 2021-22, Indian tea exports to the GCC increased to USD 107.18 million from USD 76.20 million in FY 2020-21, an increase of 40.66%. As merchant exporters of tea export blended teas by mixing teas from different regions, including Assam, in order to cater to the requirements of different buyers located in various countries, including the GCC countries, the exact volume of Assam tea exports to the GCC countries cannot be estimated.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2344
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

AGRICULTURAL EXPORT POLICY

2344. SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI:
SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:
SHRI POCHA BRAHMANANDA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing the Agricultural Export Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the targets, timelines and achievements therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to conduct stakeholder consultations to improve the implementation of the Agricultural Export Policy; and
- (d) 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 (d): Yes Sir. The Government introduced a comprehensive Agriculture Export Policy (AEP) in 2018, which forms the basis for activities being undertaken to promote agriculture exports. The agriculture exports have reached USD 50.20 billion in 2021-22 from USD 35.58 billion in 2019-20 registering a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 18.78%. The Government has taken several steps at State/ District levels to implement AEP and promote agriculture exports. State specific Action Plans have been prepared and State Level Monitoring Committees (SLMCs), Nodal Agencies for agricultural exports and Cluster Level Committees have been formed in a number of States. Country and product-specific action plans have also been formulated to promote exports. The Government is also in the process to utilize the proposed District as Export Hub Initiative to achieve the objectives of AEP. Under the District as Export Hub Initiative, products including agricultural products with export potential have been identified in all 733 districts across the country in consultation with stakeholders including State Governments. State Export Strategy has been prepared in 28 States/UTs. The institutional

framework created under DEH initiative provides a platform for regular stakeholders' consultations.

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

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

Further, a Farmer Connect Portal has been developed for providing a platform for farmers, Farmer-Producer Organizations (FPOs) and cooperatives to interact with exporters. Buyer-Seller Meets (BSMs) have been organized in the clusters to provide export-market linkages. Regular interactions, through video conferences, have been held with the Indian Missions abroad, to assess and tap export opportunities. Country specific BSMs, through Indian Missions, have also been organized.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2351
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

EXPORT OF SEAFOOD, COIR AND CASHEW NUT

2351. ADV. A.M. ARIFF:

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

- (a) the details and value of seafood, coir and cashew nut exports from the country in the last five financial years;
- (b) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that marine product consignments from the country are being rejected by importing countries including China owing to financial crisis in those countries and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps for providing relief for marine product exporters whose pre-agreed consignments are being rejected without citing any reasons by the importing countries and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government intends to utilize a fixed percentage of the income for foreign exports for the welfare of the baseline workers in export-oriented industries and 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): Year-wise value of marine product/seafood, coir and cashew nut exports in the last five years are as follows:

Values in USD Million

Commodities	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Marine Products/seafood	7389.22	6802.56	6722.07	5962.39	7772.36
Coir and Coir Manufactures	325.77	327.38	340.42	476.63	569.00
Cashew	922.41	654.43	566.82	420.43	453.08

Source: DGCI&S

(b) & (c): Some Marine products consignments from India have been rejected from importing countries including China. The rejections take place due to apparent non-compliance of importing country regulations. The competent agencies in the Government such as Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and Export Inspection Council (EIC) facilitate efforts for revoking measures such as suspension of units, higher testing requirements in case they are enforced by importing countries.

(d): Income from foreign exports accrues to exporters and government does not spend from the earnings. However, 'Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)' addresses critical gaps in production, productivity, quality, technology, post-harvest infrastructure, traceability, etc. In addition, to address the critical infrastructure requirements of fisheries and aquaculture sectors, the Department of Fisheries, Government of India during 2018-19 has created the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF) with a total fund size of Rs 7,522.48 crore to provide concessional finance to States/UT and private sector.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2372
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

INAUS-ECTDA

2372. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

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

- (a) whether India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (INAUS-ECTDA) which was signed in April needed nod of Australian Parliament;
- (b) if so, whether the Australian Parliament has given its nod to the agreement;
- (c) if so, the items identified by Indian Government for duty elimination to Australia;
- (d) whether this agreement is likely to boost free trade and Indian students to get admission and jobs in Australia and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the present position of India-UK trade pact?

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-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (Ind-AusECTA) was signed on April 2, 2022. Australian Parliament has given the nod to the agreement. The agreement will come into force on December 29, 2022.

(c): India is offering concessions mostly on raw materials and intermediates either in the form of tariff limitation, tariff reduction with or without a Tariff Rate Quota. The list of items identified by Indian Government for tariff elimination/tariff reduction to Australia is available in the Department of Commerce website at the following link: <https://commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/02A-2-Schedule-Australia.pdf>

(d): Yes Sir. This agreement is likely to increase India's trade with Australia. As per agreement, Australia will provide post study work visa up to 4 years for Indian students; quota of 1800 per year for Indian chefs and yoga instructors; Work & Holiday

visa arrangement for young professionals; temporary entry and temporary stay commitments for up to 4 years for Intra Corporate Transferees, Contractual Service Suppliers and Independent Executives.

The details are available in the Department of Commerce website at the following link **<https://commerce.gov.in/international-trade/trade-agreements/ind-aus-ecta/>**

(e): India and UK are negotiating a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) since January 13, 2022. Six rounds of negotiations have been held so far.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2385
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

EXPLORING OF NEW MARKETS

2385. SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (RAJU BHAIYA):
SHRI BHOLA SINGH:
DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:
DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has devised a multi-pronged plan that includes offering incentives and exploring new markets to revive outbound shipments amid a demand slump in major markets;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Remission of Duties and Taxes on Export Products (RoDTEP) is also being considered to be extended to the steel, pharmaceutical and chemical sectors;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Ministry is also exploring free-trade agreement opportunities beyond the traditional markets such as with Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, Economic Community of West African States and Latin American countries such as Mercosur, Chile, Colombia and Peru; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the other steps being taken by the Ministry 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) & (b): The Government regularly reviews export performance of different sectors and proactive measures are taken from time to time for boosting export performance. Following steps have been taken in this regard:

- (i) Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) extended upto 31-03-2023.

(ii) Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit has also been extended upto 31-03-2024.

(iii) Assistance provided through several schemes to promote exports, namely, Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) and Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme.

(iv) Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Scheme to promote labour oriented textile export has been implemented since 07.03.2019.

(v) Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme has been implemented since 01.01.2021.

(vi) Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been launched to facilitate trade and increase Free Trade Agreement (FTA) utilization by exporters.

(vii) 12 Champion Services Sectors have been identified for promoting and diversifying services exports by pursuing specific action plans.

(viii) Districts as Export Hubs has been launched by identifying products with export potential in each district, addressing bottlenecks for exporting these products and supporting local exporters/manufacturers to generate employment in the district.

(ix) Active role of Indian missions abroad towards promoting India's trade, tourism, technology and investment goals has been enhanced.

(x) Package announced in light of the COVID pandemic to support domestic industry through various banking and financial sector relief measures, especially for MSMEs, which constitute a major share in exports.

(xi) Pursuing Free Trade Arrangements (FTAs) and economic partnerships in certain international markets.

(c) & (d): RoDTEP scheme has been extended for exports made by Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and articles of Iron and Steel sector belonging to Chapter 28, 29, 30 & 73, with effect from 15.12.2022.

(e) & (f): India has so far signed 13 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and 6 Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) with its trading partners for preferential access for its products. India has recently signed 3 agreements namely India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement, India-UAE Comprehensive Partnership Agreement and India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement. Further, India is also actively engaged in FTA negotiations with some of its trading partners including the United Kingdom, European Union and Canada. Trade negotiations with partner countries is a dynamic and continuous process for obtaining better market access for India's exports and other business opportunities.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2430
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

EXPORT OF IRON ORE

2430. SHRI ABHISHEK BANERJEE:

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

- (a) whether it is true that India's iron ore exports were almost zero in October 2022;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is true that iron ore exports will continue to decrease in the light of reduced demand from China; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to mitigate this financial loss?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) & (b): No Sir. India's iron ore exports in Oct 2022 were 1,85,518 ton valuing USD 7.83 Million.

(c): Export of iron ore is dependent on a number of factors like price competitiveness, demand in international markets, global economic growth, etc.

(d): On 19 Nov 2022, the Government of India has withdrawn export duty on iron ore with 'less than 58 per cent Fe content', iron ore pellets, pig iron and certain steel products. The measures taken will boost exports.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2440
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

EXPORT GROWTH WITHIN TAMIL NADU

2440. DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:

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

- (a) the initiatives taken by the Government for export growth within Tamil Nadu so far;
- (b) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized for this within Tamil Nadu so far;
- (c) the details of the target set and achievements made so far along with the response in this regard;
- (d) whether a significant increase has been recorded after these initiatives within Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has signed an MoU as a further step towards these initiatives within Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) : The major initiatives taken by the government for export growth in Tamil Nadu are as follows:

(1) Steps taken by Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA):

- i. Providing financial assistance through Financial Assistance Scheme (FAS) to facilitate the exporters of Agri - products by assisting exporters under the

following components (i) Development of Export Infrastructure, (ii) Quality development and Market Development.

- ii. Organized Buyers-Sellers Meet (BSM) by collaborating with Indian Missions / Embassies abroad. Virtual Trade Fairs (VTFs) and Virtual BSM meets, which have participation by exporters and GI producers from Tamil Nadu.
- iii. Agri Exporters Conclave for Tamil Nadu stakeholders under “Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” was conducted virtually. Around 200 participants comprising stakeholders from Central/State Govt. agencies, exporters, associations and FPOs attended the conclave.
- iv. A trade delegation has been taken to various importing countries to facilitate Road Shows, discuss trade/market access, organize B2B meetings with importers etc.
- v. APEDA exporters from the state of Tamil Nadu were facilitated for participation in all the international events.

(2) Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) has established:

- i. A Regional Division in Chennai and Sub Regional Division in Tuticorin and Nagapattinam in the state for the promotion of exports and export-oriented aquaculture.
- ii. Two ELISA(Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay) Screening laboratories at Nagapattinam and Pattukottai to conduct quality screening of farmed shrimp/fish for testing the presence of banned antibiotics.

(3) The initiatives taken by Spices Board include implementing various schemes for post-harvest improvement and export promotion of spices, benefiting stakeholders of the Spices Sector in Tamil Nadu. Under the Integrated Scheme for Export Promotion & Quality Improvement in Spices and Research & Development of Cardamom- from FY 2021-22, various programmes have been implemented by the Spices Board, in the State of Tamil Nadu:

- i. Established a Spices Park at Sivaganga, Tamil Nadu with common infrastructure facilities for processing, value addition and storage of Chilli and turmeric.

- ii. Organized Buyer Seller Meets(BSM) and various training programs for the stakeholders of Chilli and other spices, aimed at quality improvement, entrepreneurship development etc, in association with various line departments.
- iii. Established two quality evaluation laboratories (QEL) at Chennai and Tuticorin.

(4) Under the aegis of the Tea Board, the United Planters' Association of Southern India has been organizing the “ Golden Leaf India Award: Southern Tea Competition every year to showcase the quality attributes of teas from South India.

(5) Coffee Board assists in brand building and promotional campaigns through digital media campaigns focusing on the strengths of Indian Coffee. The Board organizes an incubation Program 'VIKRAYAM' to create a platform for coffee growers and entrepreneurs for direct exports without many intermediaries.

(6) Under Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES), assistance is being provided to Central and State Government agencies for infrastructure projects with significant export linkages like Border Haats, Land customs stations, quality testing and certification labs, cold chains, trade promotion centres, export warehousing and packaging, SEZs and ports/airports cargo terminuses etc.

(7) Under the "Districts as Export Hubs Initiative" (DEH), the Department of Commerce through the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), works with the States/UTs and the districts to create institutional mechanisms to facilitate exports of identified products/services from the districts. Under this initiative, products and services with export potential, including agricultural and industrial products, have been identified in all districts of Tamil Nadu

(b) to (d): The details of funds provided for approved projects in Tamil Nadu under TIES is as follows:

(Amount in Rs. Cr.)

No. of projects approved under TIES	Total TIES share for approved projects	Total TIES grant released, till date
17	174.01	111.90

The overall exports from Tamil Nadu during the three years is as given below-

FINANCIAL YEAR	EXPORT VALUE (IN Million USD)	% GROWTH
2020-21	26.15	-
2021-22	35.17	34.48
2022-23 (Apr-Oct)	23.13	19.09

Source: DGCIS

(e): APEDA has signed an MoU with Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) to increase Agri exports from the state. APEDA has also signed MoU with NABARD, SFAC, NAFED, NCDC etc., and many sensitization/awareness programs for export promotion from the state have been organized.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2462
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2022

EXPORT OF NON-BASMATI RICE

2462. SHRI B.B. PATIL:

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

- (a) the reasons for non-basmati rice holding major amount of rice exports to other countries from India;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to incentivise the non-basmati rice sales within the country; and
- (c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote the same?

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): Basmati rice is a premium GI-tagged product with limited production base, confined to the Indo-Gangetic plains. Due to its high price, basmati rice is a niche product in the international market. As all the other varieties of rice produced in India are categorized as non-Basmati rice, their exports account for a major share of total exports of rice from India.

(b) & (c): Non-basmati rice is used as staple diet by a large share of population and already has a large consumption base in India.
