

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4875
ANSWERED ON 01/04/2025

IMPLEMENTATION OF FTA

4875. SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:

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

- (a) the current status of the India-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations, including key pending issues;
- (b) the expected timeline for finalization and implementation of the FTA; and
- (c) the anticipated impact of the agreement on Indian industries, exports and employment?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) India and UK Free Trade Agreement Negotiations (FTA) were launched on 13th January 2022. 14 rounds of negotiations have been held so far. Negotiations were paused by UK side in May 2024 owing to their elections. Both Prime Ministers met on the sidelines of the G-20 Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in November 2024 to underline the importance of resuming trade negotiations at an early date. The Secretary of State (SoS) for the Department for Business and Trade of the United Kingdom visited New Delhi during 24-25 February 2025 and held meetings with Hon'ble Minister for Commerce and Industry of India. The two Ministers jointly announced the resumption of India-UK Free Trade Agreement negotiations on 24th February 2025.

(b) India-UK trade negotiations are being held with the objective of concluding an agreement which is comprehensive, balanced, mutually beneficial, fair and equitable, which benefits the people and businesses of both countries. The trade agreement is being negotiated without any agreed timelines to secure market access in goods and services for our exporters and secure a deal which is in national interest.

(c) The proposed trade deal with UK is expected to increase India's exports in various sectors including in Leather, Textile, Jewellery, Marine and processed Agri products. It also has great potential for increasing exports in service sectors like IT/ITES etc. The increase in India's exports and investments may boost employment opportunities. The India-UK trade deal is could contribute to integrating value chains and help strengthen the resilience of supply chains.
