

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 168
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03rd JULY, 2019**

TRADE BETWEEN INDIA AND CENTRAL ASIA

168. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV & SRIMATI RAMA DEVI

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the volume/quantum of trade between India and the countries of Central Asia region is not upto the desired level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any study and survey in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details and the findings thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase trade with Central Asian countries during the last three years and the current year along with the success achieved therefrom?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF MINISTRY 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. 168 FOR ANSWER ON 03rd JULY, 2019 REGARDING
“TRADE BETWEEN INDIA AND CENTRAL ASIA”**

(a) & (b) The details of the bilateral merchandise trade between India and Central Asian countries are given below:-

Value in USD Million

S. No	Country	2017-18			2018-19		
		Exports	Imports	Total Trade	Exports	Imports	Total Trade
1	KAZAKHSTAN	125.37	907.43	1,032.81	143.13	708.78	851.91
2	KYRGHYZSTAN	28.59	30.94	59.53	30.02	2.59	32.6
3	TAJIKISTAN	23.94	50.29	74.24	22.28	4.24	26.52
4	TURKMENISTAN	54.31	26.15	80.46	45.64	20.63	66.27
5	UZBEKISTAN	132.72	101.67	234.39	201.41	126.73	328.14
	Total	364.93	1,116.49	1,481.42	442.48	862.97	1,305.45

Some factors impeding higher level of trade with Central Asian countries include language barriers, stringent process of registration of products, problems in dispute settlement, weak banking and financial system, low accessibility, poor connectivity and visa Issues with these countries.

Efforts are being made to boost this trade by resolving various trade related matters through the existing institutional mechanisms of Inter-Governmental Commissions (IGCs) / Joint Commission Meetings and Joint Working Groups (JWGs) between India and Central Asian countries.

(c) & (d) Yes Sir.

The Central Asian Countries namely Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan are members of the Eurasian Economic Union (EaEU). A Joint Feasibility Study has been conducted to explore the possibility of Free Trade agreement with EaEU where Russia, Armenia, Belarus are the other three countries. The Joint Feasibility Study (JFS) has

found that there is a significant realizable potential to enhance the bilateral trade with Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan through a trade agreement.

Further, a Joint Statement has been shared with Uzbekistan to commence a Joint Feasibility Study to explore the feasibility of Preferential Trade Agreement between India and Uzbekistan. The likely potential of the bilateral trade would be determined once the Joint Feasibility Study gets completed.

- (e) There are existing institutional mechanisms in the form of Inter-Governmental Commissions (IGCs), Joint Commission Meetings (JCMs) and Joint Working Groups (JWGs) where bilateral trade issues are taken up for discussions. During the last three years and in the current year meetings of 3 IGCs, 2 JWGs and 3 JCMs have been held. The Ministry also takes up export promotion matters with Export Promotion Councils, Trade Bodies, Commodity Boards and Embassies of India in the Central Asian Region for identifying and addressing issues which hamper exports.

On account of such efforts on the part of various stakeholders, including the Government, India's merchandise export in the aggregate to the Central Asian countries increased in 2017-18 and 2018-19 vis-a-vis with the respective previous financial year.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1807
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

PLANTATION WORKERS

1807. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding the plantation workers in the country; and
(b) if so, the details thereof, State/UTwise?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): Estimated number of workers engaged in plantation sector covering tea, coffee, rubber and cardamom are as under:

Tea	Assam	West Bengal	Tamil Nadu	Kerala	Tripura	Karnataka	Other States	Total
	6,84,654	3,37,316	49,410	40,773	13,257	3,059	3,473	11,31,942

Source: Tea Board.

Coffee	Karnataka	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	Non Traditional Area (Odisha & Andhra Pradesh)	Total
	5,14,695	44,194	31,274	69,703	6,59,866

Source: Coffee Board.

Rubber	Kerala	Tamil Nadu	Karnataka	Tripura	Assam	Other States	Total
	3,04,000	13,300	29,500	45,600	29,800	28,800	4,51,000

Source: Rubber Board.

Cardamom (small)	Kerala	Karnataka	Tamil Nadu	Total
	29,150	18,850	3,800	51,800

Source: Spices Board.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1808
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

SETTING UP OF SEZ IN TAMIL NADU

1808. DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in the Perambalur district of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which this SEZ will be set up and made functional;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the total number of SEZs set up by the Government during the last three years in the country, State-wise?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): No Sir, there is no proposal to set up a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in the Perambalur District of Tamil Nadu. Setting up of SEZs is primarily private investment driven. Central Government has not set up any SEZs during the last three years in the Country.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1822
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONES

1822. SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:

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

- (a) the details and total number of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) which have been set up in the country, State/UTwise;
- (b) whether there are SEZs which have been set up to promote agricultural activities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): There were 7 Central Government Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 12 State/Private Sector SEZs prior to the enactment of the SEZs Act, 2005. In addition to that 416 proposals for setting up of SEZs in the Country have been accorded formal approvals. Presently, 351 SEZs are notified, out of which 232 SEZs are operational. States/Union Territories-wise details of SEZs is at **Annexure-I**.

(b) to (d): Yes Sir, 7 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) have been approved for Agro and Food Processing sectors in India. Out of these 7 SEZs, 6 have been notified. Out of these 6 notified SEZs, 3 SEZs are operational. A statement showing details Agro and Food Processing SEZs in India is at **Annexure-II**.

Annexure-I to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1822 for 3rd July, 2019

States/Union Territories-wise distribution of approved SEZs					
States/UTs	Central Government SEZs set up prior to the enactment of SEZs Act, 2005	State Government/ Private Sector SEZs set up prior to the enactment of SEZs Act, 2005	Formal Approvals granted under the SEZs Act, 2005	Notified SEZs under the SEZ Act, 2005	Total Operational SEZs (Including prior to SEZs Act + under the SEZs Act)
Andhra Pradesh	1	0	32	27	19
Chandigarh	0	0	2	2	2
Chhattisgarh	0	0	2	1	1
Delhi	0	0	2	0	0
Goa	0	0	7	3	0
Gujarat	1	2	28	24	20
Haryana	0	0	24	21	6
Jharkhand	0	0	1	1	0
Karnataka	0	0	62	51	31
Kerala	1	0	29	25	19
Madhya Pradesh	0	1	10	5	5
Maharashtra	1	0	49	43	30
Manipur	0	0	1	1	0
Nagaland	0	0	2	2	0
Odisha	0	0	7	5	5
Puducherry	0	0	1	0	0
Punjab	0	0	5	3	3
Rajasthan	0	2	5	4	3
Tamil Nadu	1	4	53	50	40
Telangana	0	0	63	57	29
Uttar Pradesh	1	1	24	21	12
West Bengal	1	2	7	5	7
GRAND TOTAL	7	12	416	351	232

Annexure-II to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1822 for 3rd July, 2019

List of Agro and Food Processing SEZs in India				
Sl. No.	Name of the developer	Type of SEZ	Location	SEZ status
1	Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA)	Agro Based Food Processing	Malappuram District, Kerala	Notified/ Operational
2	Parry Infrastructure Company Private Limited	Food Processing	Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh	Notified/ Operational
3	Pearl City (CCCL Infrastructure Limited)	Food Processing	Tuticorin District, Tamil Nadu	Notified/ Operational
4	Nagaland Industrial Development Corporation Limited	Agro and Food Processing	Demapur, Nagaland	Notified
5	Ansal Colours Engineering SEZ Limited	Agro and Food Processing Products	Sonepat, Haryana	Notified
6	CCL Products (India) Limited	Agro based Food Processing	Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh	Notified
7	Akshaypatra Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Food Processing	Mehsana, Gujarat	Formal Approval

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1835
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

COLD STORAGE AND WAREHOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

1835. DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to strengthen cold storage and warehousing infrastructure facilities in North Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of amount of funds sanctioned for this purpose?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c) Yes, sir. The Government has various schemes to strengthen cold storage and warehousing infrastructure facilities in the country, including in North Maharashtra.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure as one of the components of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana with the objective of arresting post-harvest losses of horticulture & non-horticulture produce and providing remunerative price to farmers for their produce. Under the scheme, 67 projects have been sanctioned for Maharashtra, out of which 33 have been completed and 34 are under implementation. A total amount of Rs.481.64 crore has been sanctioned for these projects, out of which Rs.277.11 crores has been released.

Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for development of Horticulture in the country including Maharashtra under which financial assistance is available, inter-alia, for setting up of Post-Harvest management (PHM) infrastructure including cold storage. An amount of Rs.2123.50 lakh has been approved for 21 cold storages in Maharashtra since inception of MIDH (2014 - 15).

Food Corporation of India (FCI) has a total capacity of 4,51,703 MT for the storage of central pool stock of foodgrains for distribution under public Distribution System in North Maharashtra (as on 28.06.2019).

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1849 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

IMPORT/EXPORT OF RICE

1849(H). SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:

SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:

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

- (a) the quantum and price of rice exported and imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country and variety-wise;
- (b) whether the export of basmati rice has reported a decline during the said period and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether certain countries including Iran have imposed ban on import of basmati rice from India due to which export of rice reported a decline during the said period;
- (d) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- (e) the corrective measures taken by the Government to review the said ban; and
- (f) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to promote export of rice particularly basmati rice from the country?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a) The quantum and value of rice exported and imported during each of the last three years and the current year, country and variety-wise (basmati and non-basmati) are at Annexure-I
- (b) The export of basmati rice has increased from USD 3208.60 million in 2016-17 to USD 4712.44 million in 2018-19.
- (c) No country has imposed a ban on import of basmati rice from India
- (d) & (e) Do not arise in view of (c) above.
- (f) Promotion of exports of agricultural products like basmati rice is a continuous process. The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), an autonomous organisation under the administrative control of Department of Commerce, has been mandated with the export promotion of rice including basmati rice. APEDA has been able to register Basmati Rice as a Geographical Indication (GI) in February 2016. APEDA, in collaboration with the trade, has also established Basmati Export Development Foundation (BEDF), which undertakes various activities for development and export promotion of Basmati rice. Moreover, APEDA has also been providing assistance to the Basmati rice exporters under various components of its export promotion scheme.

Export of Basmati Rice

Quantity in MT; Value in USD Million

COUNTRY	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (Apr-May)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
IRAN	716582	564.28	877420	904.73	1483697	1556.17	333079	364.09
SAUDI ARAB	809344	671.08	792480	829.61	867741	938.91	171738	183.22
IRAQ	453741	337.32	429965	435.52	385732	399.43	56760	56.95
U ARAB EMTS	614659	467.66	429324	437.66	282375	297.62	35131	39.50
YEMEN REPubLC	130652	103.28	167687	161.04	201926	209.95	41352	43.06
KUWAIT	162674	149.37	166873	177.91	154745	177.11	31275	32.57
U S A	108992	112.17	126792	149.01	135605	168.74	25135	31.30
U K	150537	101.55	180509	159.17	111924	106.08	14349	13.94
OMAN	83151	75.48	78085	89.64	87832	96.61	13771	15.63
QATAR	81961	72.47	81101	82.08	73569	76.08	18126	18.26
OTHER COUNTRIES	672917	553.92	726611	743.19	629459	685.75	123312	133.68
TOTAL	3985210	3208.60	4056847	4169.56	4414605	4712.44	864028	932.20

Export of Non-Basmati Rice

Quantity in MT; Value in USD Million

COUNTRY	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (Apr-May)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
NEPAL	583737	209.73	624860	240.40	770118	281.14	88905	36.00
BENIN	702183	251.87	778779	314.19	699005	264.16	73372	27.33
BANGLADESH PR	82689	29.67	2037980	835.39	480566	221.90	2550	2.28
SENEGAL	676060	189.68	833059	263.22	720475	220.83	11242	4.20
GUINEA	541573	182.44	461978	173.81	467693	175.93	56369	21.04
COTE D' IVOIRE	375024	124.14	398490	148.95	438089	163.17	61277	22.92
U ARAB EMTS	260223	133.71	273773	149.21	291579	147.69	27197	14.23
SOMALIA	354677	121.66	328257	125.38	326919	120.89	64678	23.68
INDONESIA	52214	18.51	39033	14.27	326005	119.22	0	0.00
LIBERIA	252381	90.97	264154	100.20	301112	116.97	380	0.13
OTHER COUNTRIES	2890072	1172.80	2778170	1271.57	2778188	1208.32	325867	142.01
TOTAL	6770833	2525.19	8818533	3636.60	7599749	3040.22	711837	293.82

Import of Non-Basmati Rice

Quantity in MT; Value in USD

COUNTRY	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (Apr-May)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
SUDAN	0	0.00	0	0.00	3316	1568803.00	0	0.00
THAILAND	402	346701.00	508	483312.00	685	834602.00	170	204854.00
SPAIN	193	171059.00	575	469638.00	576	486171.00	225	184778.00
U S A	356	356427.00	269	270738.00	430	468700.00	169	192146.00
ITALY	139	175164.00	239	359123.00	220	223463.00	2	2675.00
OTHER COUNTRIES	54	30952.00	531	309336.00	1644	979216.00	199	122077.00
TOTAL	1144	1080303.00	2122	1892147.00	6871	4560955.00	765	706530.00

There are no imports of Basmati Rice**Source: DGCI&S**

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1868
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

FREE TRADE AND WAREHOUSING ZONES

1868. SHRI VINCENT H. PALA:

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

- (a) the total number of Free Trade and Ware Housing Zones (FTWHZs) in India along with the location and status of each zone;
- (b) the details of amount invested by the Government and private party during the last five years;
- (c) the details of amount of revenue generated during the last five years; and
- (d) the total number of New FTWH Zones proposed to be developed in the future, if any, and the amount provided for the same?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): There are 8 approved Free Trade and Warehousing Zones (FTWZs) in India. Out of 8, 4 FTWZs have been notified. Out of 4 notified FTWZs, 3 are operational. A statement showing details of these FTWZs in India is at **Annexure**.

(b) and (c): There is no investment made by the Central Government in these FTWZs. Total amount of Rs.3,315.81 crores have been invested by the private Developers/Co-developers in these FTWZs during the last five years. Further, revenue of Rs.13,051.19 crores have been generated by these FTEZs during the last five years.

(d): Setting up of New FTWZs (SEZs) is primarily private investment driven. .

Annexure to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1868 for 3rd July, 2019

Details Free Trade and Warehousing Zones (FTWZs) SEZs in India				
Sl. No.	Name of the developer	Location	Area Hectares	SEZ status
1	Arshiya International Limited	Taluka Panvel, District Raigad, Maharashtra	57.898	Notified/Operational
2	J. Matadee Free Trade Zone Private Limited	Sriperumbudur Taluk, Kancheepuram District, Tamil Nadu	40	Notified/Operational
3	Arshiya Northern FTWZ Limited	Moujpur, Bulandshar, Uttar Pradesh	51.4394	Notified/Operational
4	Arshiya International Ltd.	Taluka & District Nagpur, Maharashtra	43.26	Notified
5	Lepakshi Knowledge Hub Private Limited	Chillamaturu Mandal, Ananthapur District, Andhra Pradesh	40	Formal Approval
6	ISPRL FTWZ Padur (Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd.)	Padur, Karnataka	41.20	Formal Approval
7	Cochin Port Trust	Thoppumpady Ramesaram Village, Cochin, Kerala	40.85	Formal Approval
8	Venkatesh Coke & Power Ltd.	Ponneri Taluk, Thiruvalur District, Tamil Nadu	46.71	Formal Approval

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1889
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

RISK OF NON-REALISATION OF EXPORT PROCEEDS

1889. DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY

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

- (a) whether the Government has implemented any mechanism to protect the interests of exporters against the risk of non-realisation of export proceeds;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes for any financial allocation for this purpose; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- a) Yes, the Central Government has an undertaking known as “ECGC Limited” under the control of Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry to support the Indian exporters and bankers by providing cost-effective insurance and trade related services against the risk of non-realisation of export proceeds.

Additionally, the Government has set up the National Export Insurance Account (NEIA) operated by ECGC to provide adequate credit insurance cover to protect long and medium term exporters against both, political and commercial risks of the overseas country and the buyer/bank concerned. The NEIA trust also provides covers to banks for Buyer's Credit transactions, which facilitates foreign buyer to pay for project exports from India.

- b) ECGC provides the following services:
 - i. Credit insurance schemes (popularly known as ‘Policies’) to exporters to protect them against losses due to non-payment of export dues by overseas buyers due to political and/ or commercial risks on short-term basis.
 - ii. Export Credit Insurance covers for Banks (ECIB) to cover the banks’ lending risks involved in extending ‘pre-shipment’ and ‘post-shipment’ finance to exporters on short-term basis.

- iii. ECGC also provides Policy and ECIB covers to promote medium and long term exports (MLT), otherwise called Project exports, that are made on credit period exceeding 360 days.

c) Yes,

- d) The Government has recently approved ₹2000 crore towards the capital infusion of ECGC during Financial Year FY 2017-18 to FY 2019-20 to enhance its capital base to augment its underwriting capacity. Additionally, this will support in boosting India's exports to emerging markets like Africa, CIS and Latin American countries.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1898 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

IMPORT AND EXPORT FROM AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

1898(H). SHRIMATI BHAVANA PUNDILIKRAO GAWALI:

SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE

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

- the details of quantity and value of exported and imported items compared to the fixed target of foodgrains and other agricultural products during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;
- the share of agriculture sector including country's share in the total export of the country and the share of different States/Union Territories in it;
- whether there has been a negative increase in the export of six major agricultural products including tea, spices and tobacco during the year 2016-17 and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- whether the Government has assessed any long-term impact on this export of agriculture and horticulture sector in the country and if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- the measures taken by the Government to augment the export of such products in order to improve the competition of Indian products in the natural market and to formulate long term importexport policy for agricultural products without affecting the domestic demand/price in the context of products value and their varieties?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a) The details of quantity and value of exports and imports of foodgrains and other agricultural products, during the last three years and the current year, are at Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.

Country-wise details for the last three years (top 10 countries) are at Annexure-III. As export and import of agricultural products depend on several factors such as International & domestic demand & supply situation, international & domestic prices, quality concerns, food security concerns etc., no targets for exports or imports are fixed.

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(b) The share of agriculture sector in the country's total exports, during the last three years, has been as under:

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Share of agriculture sector in total exports	12.07%	12.66%	11.76%

Source: DGCI&S

State/Union Territory-wise data is not published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S).

(c) Overall exports of agricultural products grew by 2.64% in 2016-17 as compared to the previous year. The exports of tea, spices and manufactured tobacco grew by 1.56%, 12.22% and 2.41% respectively while the exports of unmanufactured tobacco declined by 4.65%. Some of the major commodities, which registered a decline in exports were buffalo meat (-4.07%), basmati rice (-7.75%) and cotton (-16.38%). There are several reasons for the decline viz. lower prices and demand in the international market, unfavourable currency movements, international developments like sanctions against Iran and Russia etc.

(d) No study has been conducted to assess the long term impact of exports on the agricultural and horticultural sector by the Department of Commerce. However, it is expected that exports not only provide better market opportunities to the growers but also generally help in increasing their income.

(e) To promote the agricultural exports, The Government has introduced a comprehensive Agriculture Export Policy with the following vision:-

“Harness export potential of Indian agriculture, through suitable policy instruments, to make India a global power in agriculture, and raise farmers' income.”

Inter-alia, the objectives of the Agriculture Export policy are as under:

- (i) To diversify our export basket, destinations and boost high value and value added agricultural exports, including focus on perishables.
- (ii) To promote novel, indigenous, organic, ethnic, traditional and non-traditional Agri products exports.
- (iii) To provide an institutional mechanism for pursuing market access, tackling barriers and dealing with sanitary and phytosanitary issues.
- (iv) To strive to double India's share in world agri exports by integrating with global value chains.
- (v) Enable farmers to get benefit of export opportunities in overseas market.

The Government has also brought out a new Central Sector Scheme – ‘Transport and Marketing Assistance for Specified Agriculture Products’ - for providing assistance for the international component

of freight, to mitigate the freight disadvantage for the export of agriculture products, and marketing of agricultural products.

The Department of Commerce also has several schemes to promote exports, including exports of agricultural products, viz. Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES), Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme, Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) etc. In addition, assistance to the exporters of agricultural products is also available under the Export Promotion Schemes of Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Tobacco Board, Tea Board, Coffee Board, Rubber Board and Spices Board.

EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS									
Quantity: in thousand units; Value: USD Million									
		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (Apr-May)	
Description	UNIT	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Alcoholic Beverages	LTR	2,32,179.33	298.90	2,41,013.37	326.67	2,31,601.93	300.91	24,470.87	38.17
Animal Casings	KGS	173.24	2.06	12,424.66	50.68	14,882.83	68.27	1,860.28	9.18
Buffalo Meat	TON	1,323.58	3,903.49	1,350.25	4,037.11	1,233.38	3,587.15	196.12	553.36
Cashew	TON	91.79	786.93	90.06	922.41	78.22	654.43	10.73	84.50
Cashew Nut Shell Liquid	KGS	11,404.76	6.56	8,325.16	5.06	5,300.66	3.87	651.15	0.47
Castor Oil	KGS	5,99,195.56	674.73	6,97,092.50	1,043.99	6,19,376.57	883.78	1,08,029.60	180.07
Cereal Preparations	TON	339.95	531.70	353.35	552.61	347.77	551.74	54.30	87.27
Cocoa Products	KGS	25,649.50	162.18	29,579.53	177.47	27,603.73	192.69	4,617.91	30.16
Coffee	KGS	2,88,613.37	842.84	3,17,828.97	968.57	2,82,889.02	822.34	56,749.99	149.54
Cotton Raw Incl'd. Waste	TON	996.09	1,621.11	1,101.47	1,894.25	1,143.07	2,104.41	66.99	118.70
Dairy Products	KGS	90,352.31	253.73	1,02,262.55	303.05	1,80,698.38	481.55	26,150.46	71.90
Floricltr Products	KGS	22,020.33	81.55	20,703.51	78.73	19,726.56	81.78	2,983.68	13.45
Fresh Fruits	TON	817.06	743.23	714.00	761.79	754.75	794.04	155.35	154.15
Fresh Vegetables	TON	3,404.07	863.12	2,448.02	821.76	2,933.37	810.44	449.73	119.96
Fruits / Vegetable Seeds	KGS	11,288.62	78.16	14,465.77	104.04	17,419.48	124.92	2,534.57	30.91
Groundnut	TON	725.71	809.60	504.04	524.82	489.19	472.74	85.97	92.05
Guergam Meal	TON	419.95	463.35	494.13	646.94	513.22	674.88	91.96	117.43
Marine Products	KGS	11,85,272.87	5,903.06	14,32,456.67	7,389.22	14,36,680.63	6,802.24	2,24,351.96	996.97
Milled Products	KGS	2,55,803.65	121.37	2,70,396.97	136.01	3,07,367.50	151.46	46,225.21	23.13
Misc Processed Items		-	455.59	-	550.55	-	658.35	-	106.10
Mollases	TON	390.67	47.06	123.97	15.06	841.16	83.76	113.25	11.53
Natural Rubber	TON	24.46	37.65	7.70	13.89	6.66	11.02	1.13	1.90
Niger Seeds	KGS	14,070.46	17.46	9,215.04	10.84	13,370.58	13.64	2,001.16	2.33
Oil Meals	TON	2,632.26	805.45	3,570.78	1,093.16	4,486.14	1,511.52	483.70	145.05
Other Cereals	TON	734.77	212.30	864.24	248.59	1,277.00	349.06	89.28	36.15
Other Meat	TON	0.01	0.03	0.45	1.09	0.85	1.96	0.35	0.76
Other Oil Seeds	TON	193.27	126.00	295.10	174.79	213.83	131.57	18.88	13.27
Poultry Products		-	79.11	-	85.70	-	98.17	-	14.23
Processed Fruits And Juices	KGS	5,33,152.10	584.79	5,73,281.42	646.92	5,92,174.58	639.65	89,406.13	95.12
Processed Meat	TON	0.14	0.69	0.27	1.54	0.41	2.00	0.16	0.90
Processed Vegetables	KGS	1,92,855.77	263.57	2,12,203.36	282.87	2,28,872.64	293.95	38,164.28	48.93
Pulses	TON	136.72	191.05	179.60	227.75	285.83	259.34	28.96	26.43
Rice -Basmati	TON	3,985.21	3,208.60	4,056.85	4,169.56	4,414.61	4,712.44	864.03	932.20
Rice(Other Than Basmati)	TON	6,770.83	2,525.19	8,818.53	3,636.60	7,599.75	3,040.22	711.84	293.82
Sesame Seeds	KGS	3,07,328.55	402.17	3,36,850.37	463.90	3,11,987.34	538.94	41,637.11	84.06
Sheep/Goat Meat	TON	22.01	129.69	22.80	130.90	21.67	124.65	3.62	22.98
Shellac	KGS	6,065.00	33.60	6,530.85	44.22	6,996.04	43.70	1,039.16	6.24
Spices	KGS	10,14,453.31	2,851.95	10,96,322.85	3,115.37	10,91,789.68	3,322.56	2,09,119.92	586.77
Sugar	TON	2,544.01	1,290.71	1,757.93	810.90	3,987.96	1,359.75	1,189.20	382.87
Tea	KGS	2,43,429.62	731.26	2,72,894.98	837.36	2,70,300.12	830.90	39,617.55	132.90
Tobacco Manufactured		-	324.31	-	340.37	-	410.96	-	59.46
Tobacco Unmanufactured	KGS	2,04,447.42	634.38	1,85,363.88	593.88	1,89,538.70	570.28	32,419.79	102.26
Vegetable Oils	TON	60.47	116.29	37.06	87.83	49.95	106.79	8.51	19.79
Wheat	TON	265.61	66.85	322.79	96.72	226.23	60.31	16.90	4.42
TOTAL			33,283.41		38,425.52		38,739.10		6,001.81

Source: DGCI&S

Annexure-II

IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES									
Quantity: in thousand units; Value: USD Million									
		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (Apr-May)	
DESCRIPTION	UNIT	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Alcoholic Beverages	LTR	4,52,717.72	535.56	5,63,769.85	601.22	5,87,940.57	667.60	1,10,410.99	122.48
Cashew	TON	774.51	1,346.58	654.02	1,418.63	839.64	1,607.54	137.03	199.80
Cashew Nut Shell Liquid	KGS	1,687.77	0.55	2,092.36	0.88	6,611.49	3.02	4,150.78	1.47
Castor Oil	KGS	107.21	0.22	38.37	0.40	223.82	0.76	48.05	0.25
Cereal Preparations	TON	66.46	86.33	71.10	102.35	90.24	137.86	12.24	16.49
Cocoa Products	KGS	63,611.90	229.67	71,257.55	228.51	87,593.24	263.14	14,433.88	42.37
Coffee	KGS	78,041.34	138.20	77,217.05	154.73	82,772.39	137.67	12,833.96	20.16
Cotton Raw Incl. Waste	TON	499.62	946.88	469.13	979.32	298.98	632.98	76.26	155.72
Dairy Products	KGS	16,906.34	38.02	23,393.63	48.51	13,643.20	36.43	1,573.81	4.71
Florict Products	KGS	5,568.39	19.96	6,241.10	21.16	6,374.48	24.97	1,974.59	12.27
Fresh Fruits	TON	1,057.51	1,682.88	994.70	1,942.92	1,124.18	1,987.58	230.80	359.88
Fresh Vegetables	TON	8.55	1.66	15.66	3.98	14.75	3.40	0.10	0.38
Fruits / Vegetable Seeds	KGS	14,073.87	97.42	16,051.46	119.19	19,725.77	119.77	2,116.14	22.26
Groundnut	TON	0.33	0.21	1.72	2.02	1.09	1.16	0.17	0.18
Guergam Meal	TON	0.18	0.36	0.43	0.51	0.72	0.84	0.40	0.26
Marine Products	KGS	52,015.03	94.37	44,713.34	123.06	56,933.36	155.70	10,170.18	32.35
Milled Products	KGS	3,555.95	2.42	3,275.70	2.02	4,184.83	2.23	769.02	0.42
Misc Processed Items		-	315.61	-	349.00	-	366.23	-	68.75
Mollases	TON	13.84	1.35	72.85	10.76	4.47	0.20	8.30	0.33
Natural Rubber	TON	426.19	652.57	469.76	829.15	582.35	873.26	66.65	99.03
Niger Seeds	KGS	10,656.00	12.38	5,332.80	4.49	8,664.88	5.80	1,557.25	1.11
Oil Meals	TON	550.43	145.30	485.96	115.83	504.00	125.26	103.37	24.17
Other Cereals	TON	311.37	73.30	265.13	67.27	244.32	67.92	66.34	14.80
Other Meat	TON	0.59	2.84	0.78	4.31	0.88	4.39	0.16	0.75
Other Oil Seeds	TON	116.64	58.55	127.35	56.47	220.48	108.60	59.94	29.72
Poultry Products		-	4.41	-	4.17	-	6.01	-	0.90
Processed Fruits And Juices	KGS	42,993.07	81.73	53,585.04	124.78	59,120.53	129.68	12,198.75	20.60
Processed Meat	TON	0.13	0.67	0.10	0.50	0.12	0.59	0.02	0.10
Processed Vegetables	KGS	13,323.28	17.16	15,335.42	20.92	18,093.79	23.18	4,762.93	5.62
Pulses	TON	6,609.49	4,244.13	5,607.53	2,908.33	2,527.88	1,140.76	418.94	176.66
Rice(Other Than Basmati)	TON	1.14	1.08	2.12	1.89	6.87	4.56	0.77	0.71
Sesame Seeds	KGS	69,028.83	65.88	26,269.59	27.40	87,538.04	124.23	44,687.80	64.22
Sheep/Goat Meat	TON	0.13	1.27	0.22	2.07	0.12	1.55	0.04	0.45
Shellac	KGS	459.61	2.01	466.92	2.85	640.96	2.75	186.95	0.73
Spices	KGS	2,42,293.68	858.95	2,22,325.65	990.70	2,39,901.34	1,132.39	28,433.91	196.37
Sugar	TON	2,146.15	1,021.81	2,402.98	936.52	1,490.61	449.02	77.43	26.22
Tea	KGS	24,893.01	50.45	24,938.77	55.39	28,719.38	59.41	2,859.75	11.23
Tobacco Manufactured		-	34.07	-	28.85	-	36.76	-	4.48
Tobacco Unmanufactured	KGS	1,969.03	11.47	1,542.20	10.78	2,595.83	14.48	141.72	0.41
Vegetable Oils	TON	14,007.39	10,892.75	15,361.02	11,637.48	15,019.30	9,890.32	2,489.63	1,540.35
Wheat	TON	5,749.43	1,268.64	1,649.73	364.50	2.75	0.77	0.50	0.19
TOTAL			25,039.64		24,303.84		20,350.76		3,279.35

Source: DGCI&S

Country-wise Details of Export and Import of Agricultural Commodities (Top 10 Countries)**A. Exports**

Country	Export in Million USD		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
U S A	3,648.58	4,643.83	4,581.16
VIETNAM SOC REP	4,327.88	5,280.10	3,703.01
IRAN	880.48	1,321.15	2,283.41
CHINA P RP	1,052.35	1,175.65	2,256.53
U ARAB EMTS	2,127.87	2,182.97	1,907.86
BANGLADESH PR	1,378.91	2,241.42	1,833.88
SAUDI ARAB	1,457.03	1,579.74	1,623.78
MALAYSIA	878.56	910.73	951.67
INDONESIA	733.94	652.87	948.83
NEPAL	837.04	874.83	913.34
OTHER COUNTRIES	15,960.78	17,562.24	17,735.64
Total of Agricultural Exports	33,283.41	38,425.52	38,739.10

B. Imports

Country of Import	Import in Million USD		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
INDONESIA	4,808.58	5,745.44	4,067.45
UKRAINE	2,170.27	2,073.38	1,966.64
ARGENTINA	2,353.63	2,120.33	1,785.71
U S A	1,455.69	1,833.87	1,659.40
MALAYSIA	1,987.68	1,643.43	1,643.35
BRAZIL	1,454.45	1,382.66	950.04
SINGAPORE	55.43	57.95	638.18
U ARAB EMTS	362.53	362.53	636.20
VIETNAM SOC REP	382.88	419.10	470.48
COTE D' IVOIRE	393.03	353.82	434.42
OTHER COUNTRIES	9,615.50	8,311.34	6,098.89
Total Import of Agricultural Products	25,039.64	24,303.84	20,350.76

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1910
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

COMPLAINTS OF EXPORTERS

1910. SHRI PINAKI MISHRA:

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

- (a) whether the Indian exporters have complained about the lack of adequate funding at reasonable costs and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is proposing to provide an equity of Rs. 1,000/- crore through budgetary allocation to the Exim bank and strengthen the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) to provide fund to the exporters at a low cost; and
- (c) if so, the time by which the Government proposes to implement such measures for the benefits of the exporters?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

a) No.

- b) Exim Bank: The Government has approved the recapitalization of the Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank). The GOI will issue Recapitalization Bonds to the tune of Rs. 6,000 crore for capital infusion in the Bank. The GOI also approved an increase in the authorized capital of the Bank from Rs. 10,000 crore to Rs. 20,000 crore.

ECGC Ltd: The Government has approved a capital infusion of Rs. 2,000 crore to ECGC over a period of three years from FY 2017-18 to FY 2019-20 to support more exports to emerging and challenging markets like Africa, CIS, Latin America and Asian countries and to bring down the leverage ratio to 20 times.

- c) Exim Bank: Government has already made a provision of Rs. 4,500 crore in its revised budget estimate for 2018-19, for capital infusion in Exim Bank through recapitalization bonds. This is in addition to the capital infusion of Rs. 500 crore in the Bank during 2018-19. The interim budget has further made a provision of Rs. 1,500 crore towards capital infusion in the Bank during 2019-20, of which Rs. 550 crore is proposed through recapitalization bonds and the remaining by way of subscription of share capital of the Bank.

ECGC Ltd: So far Rs. 50 crore, Rs. 500 crore and Rs. 389.17 crore have been invested in the FY 2017-18, FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 respectively. The balance amount of Rs. 1,060.83 crore is proposed to be sanctioned during FY 2019-20 subject to availability of budget provisions.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1937
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

IMPORT AND PRODUCTION OF PEPPER

1937. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has noticed that the huge import is causing fall in price of pepper in the domestic industry and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government will consider raising import duty of pepper and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of import of pepper in the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the details of annual consumption and production of pepper in the country during the last three years and the current year?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) The domestic prices of pepper have fallen primarily due to decline in international prices owing to higher production and supply of pepper in the international market and also due to import of pepper from other countries into India. The price of black pepper has been showing declining trend since the year 2017-18. The average price of black pepper during 2017 -18 in domestic market was Rs. 473.73 per kg, which has declined to Rs. 378.21 per kg during 2018-19.

(b) Government is imposing a duty of 70% from 2007 onwards on import of pepper from all countries other than those covered under Trade Agreements and import under Advance Authorization Scheme for value addition and re-export. In addition, the imposition of Minimum Import Price for black pepper has helped to arrest steep fall of pepper prices and reduce imports. The estimated import of pepper into India in the year 2018-19 was 24950 Metric Tons as compared to 29650 Metric Tons in the year 2017-18, registering a decline of 15.9%.

(c) The details of import of pepper in the last three years and the current year are given below;

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs.Lakhs)
2015-16	19365	116296
2016-17	20265	111590
2017-18	29650	109084

2018-19 (Est.)	24950	77991
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(Est) : Estimate

Source: DGC&S Kolkata/DLI from Customs

(d) The details of annual consumption and production of pepper in the country during the last three years and the current year are given below;

Year	Production (MT)	Domestic Consumption (MT)
2015-16	73555	50000
2016-17	62080	55000
2017-18	70878	58000
2018-19 (*)	62144**	58000

(*) Projection

Source: Production: Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Calicut, Kerala.
Consumption: International Pepper Community, IPC, Jakarta

** All districts of Kerala and five districts of Karnataka were affected by heavy rain, flood and landslide, damaging plantations resulting in low production during 2018-19.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1940
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

REDUCTION IN TOBACCO PRODUCTION

1940. SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

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

- the details of steps taken by the Tobacco Board to reduce tobacco production in compliance with the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests recommendations in its 285th report, on "Effects of Tobacco Curing on Environment & Forest";
- whether any notice/circular has been issued for the same; and
- if so, details thereof and if not, reasons for the same?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a) The Tobacco Board has taken the following steps to reduce Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco production
- i) The Board had resolved that there shall be a gradual phase out of tobacco cultivation. The reduction shall be gradual and uniform in both Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka without affecting the farmers' interests.
 - ii) Tobacco Board is not granting registration to new growers and not issuing any licenses for construction of new barns, creating additional curing infrastructure and not expanding FCV tobacco cultivation in new areas and thereby restricting horizontal expansion of tobacco.
 - iii) Board has been advising the bankers and co-operative societies not finance for unauthorised construction of barns/unauthorised cultivation by registered growers.
 - iv) To discourage excess and unauthorized production, Government of India, under the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, permits sale of excess and unauthorized tobacco on the auction platform subject to levy of penalties.
 - v) Tobacco Board is working continuously in collaboration with the Central Tobacco Research Institute (CTRI) to provide economically sustainable alternatives to tobacco growing farmers.
 - vi) Tobacco Board in co-ordination with State Agricultural Department of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka is creating awareness about the scheme of Crop Diversification Programmes (CDP) under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (R.K.V.Y) among the FCV tobacco growers for shifting to alternative crops.
- (b) & (c) Every year, Board lays down the production policy and fixes crop size for Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka separately. As per the production policy, Tobacco Board issues a circular to the field staff in both states of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka separately on registration of Virginia Tobacco growers and barn operators, soil region wise production quotas to be authorised per licenced barn along with instructions on various steps to be taken to regulate the production to the crop size fixed by the Board and control excess and unauthorised production.

Tobacco Board undertakes various production regulation measures through, group meetings in the villages, mass contact programmes, ,electronic/news media, distribution of pamphlets, in the major tobacco growing villages to regulate production and to prevent excess/unauthorized production of FCV tobacco.

Tobacco Board also issues a circular to the Field Staff to organize awareness meetings to promote cultivation of alternative crops to FCV tobacco.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1941
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

SEZ POLICY

1941. SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA:

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

- (a) the details of the salient features of the current Special Economic Zones (SEZs) policy in the country;
- (b) whether the Government proposes Non Agriculture Land Conversion amendment in the related law procedures; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): The Special Economic Zones (SEZs) policy was launched in April, 2000. The Special Economic Zones Act, 2005, was passed by Parliament in May, 2005 which received Presidential assent on the 23rd of June, 2005. The SEZs Rules, 2006 came into effect on 10th February, 2006. The salient features of the SEZ scheme are:-

- (i) A designated duty free enclave to be treated as a territory outside the customs territory of India for the purpose of authorised operations in the SEZ;
- (ii) No licence required for import;
- (iii) Manufacturing or service activities allowed;
- (iv) The Unit shall achieve Positive Net Foreign Exchange to be calculated cumulatively for a period of five years from the commencement of production;
- (v) Domestic sales subject to full customs duty and import policy in force;
- (vi) Full freedom for subcontracting;
- (vii) No routine examination by customs authorities of export/import cargo;
- (viii) SEZ Developers /Co-Developers and Units enjoy Direct Tax and Indirect Tax benefits as prescribed in the SEZs Act, 2005.

(b): No such proposal is envisaged since land is a State subject.

(c): Does not arise.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1945
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

TRADE FAIR COMPLEXES

1945. SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH:

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

- whether the Government proposes to set up new trade fair complexes in various States in the country particularly in Assam;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the time by which the proposed complexes are likely to be set up by the Government?

ANSWER

okf.kT; ,oa m|ksx ea=h (Jh ih;w'k xks;y)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): The Department provides financial assistance for setting up export infrastructure including International Trade Promotion Centres, under the 'Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)', as and when proposals are received from the eligible agencies.

The Department has approved financial assistance for three trade promotion centres under the 'Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)'. The details of these projects are as under: -

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Implementing Agency	Time schedule indicated by the Implementation Agency
1.	'Establishment of Main Exhibition Building (Phase-II) at Trade cum Permanent Exhibition Centre at Imphal, Manipur	Manipur Industrial Development Corporation (MANIDCO), Government of Manipur	24 months from date of start
2.	'Expansion of Chennai Trade Centre', Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu Trade Promotion Organisation	Project is at initial stage of implementation.
3.	'Establishment of Trade Promotion Centre at Minto Hall, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	M.P. State Tourism Development Corporation	Completed.

No proposal has been received seeking financial assistance for a new Trade Fair Complex in Assam, under the TIES Scheme.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1955
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

IMPORT AND PRODUCTION OF PEPPER

1955. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

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

- whether the Government had imposed a Minimum Import Price (MIP) on Pepper to protect domestic pepper growers;
- if so, whether it has made any positive impact on domestic pepper growers and if so, the details thereof;
- whether rising imports and illegal entry of pepper had taken its toll on the average pepper price in India and if so, the details thereof;
- whether domestic production is likely to drop below 50,000 tonnes against a consumption of 65,000 tonnes during the year 2018-19 and if so, the details thereof;
- whether the Government proposes to remove black pepper from the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) and India Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISFTA) import lists in order to aid domestic growers, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ; and
- the steps being taken to stop cheaper imports from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Vietnam and the corrective measures taken to protect the interests of pepper growers in the country?

ANSWER

okf.kT; ,oa m|ksx ea=h (Jh ih;w'k xks;y)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): In order to reduce the import of pepper and to stabilize the domestic price of pepper, Government had fixed the CIF value of Rs.500/- per kg. as the Minimum Import Price for Black Pepper vide Notification of Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) dated 6/12/2017. Subsequently, an amendment was brought in the Minimum Import Price (MIP) notification by making import of pepper at or above Rs.500/- per kg. free and import below Rs.500/- per kg prohibited vide DGFT Notification dated 21/3/2018.

The details of import of pepper into India during the last three years and the current year are given below;

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs.Lakhs)
2015-16	19365	116296

2016-17	20265	111590
2017-18	29650	109084
2018-19 (Est.)	24950	77991

(Est: Estimate. Source: DGCI&S Kolkata/DLI from Customs)

Imposing of Minimum Import Price for black pepper has helped to arrest steep fall of pepper prices and reduce imports. The estimated import of pepper into India in the year 2018-19 was 24950 Metric Tons as compared to 29650 Metric Tons in the year 2017-18, registering a decline of 15.9%.

(c) Rising imports coupled with increased global production of pepper have resulted in fall in the price of pepper in the domestic market. The price of black pepper has been showing declining trend since the year 2017-18. The average price of black pepper during 2016 -17 in domestic market was Rs. 694.77 per kg, which has declined to Rs.378.21 per kg during 2018-19.

The average domestic price of pepper during the last 4 years is given below:

Year	Average domestic price of pepper (MG1) at Cochin (Rs/Kg)
2015-16	655.22
2016-17	694.77
2017-18	473.73
2018-19	378.21

Source: Indian Pepper and Spice Trade Association, Cochin

(d) The domestic production of pepper during 2018-19 is estimated to be less i.e. 62144 tons compared to the pepper production of 70878 tons during the year 2017-18 as all districts of Kerala and five districts of Karnataka were affected by heavy rain, flood and landslide, which damaged plantations resulting in low production during 2018-19. The details of annual consumption and production of pepper in the country during the last three years and the current year are given below;

Year	Production (MT)	Domestic Consumption (MT)
2015-16	73555	50000
2016-17	62080	55000
2017-18	70878	58000
2018-19 (*)	62144	58000

(*) Projection

Source : Production : Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development, Calicut, Kerala.
Consumption: International Pepper Community, IPC, Jakarta

(e) India enjoys trade surplus in SAARC region. Any decision to review or otherwise the terms of SAFTA and ISFTA is dependent upon the bilateral views of the parties to these agreements. No decision has been taken on the issue of review of SAFTA and ISFTA as yet.

(f) India is not importing pepper from Bangladesh, Bhutan & Nepal. The various steps taken up by the Government to curb import of pepper from Sri Lanka and Vietnam include, inter-alia, the following:

1. The Union Government Vide Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) Notification dated 6/12/2017 fixed Rs.500/- per kg as the Minimum Import Price for black pepper.

2. Subsequently, an amendment was brought in the Minimum Import Price (MIP) notification by making import of pepper at or above Rs.500/- per kilogram free and import below Rs.500/ per kg prohibited vide DGFT Notification dated 21/3/2018.
3. To prevent improper import of pepper from other countries taking advantage of preferential access under the India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISLFTA) and Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA), Sri Lankan Authorities were requested to exercise extreme care and diligence in issuing the Certificate of Origin. On our request, Sri Lanka has introduced a new procedure to prevent misuse of Certificates of Origin for third-country black pepper shipments destined to India. While issuing such Certificates of Origins, relevant authorities in Sri Lanka are also cross verifying information on exports of pepper obtained from different sources in Sri Lanka, to ascertain the genuineness of exports. Sri Lanka has also put in place a mechanism under which access has been given to Indian authorities to examine the scanned copies of Certificates of Origin issued for black pepper exports under ISLFTA and SAFTA.
4. Sri Lanka has temporarily suspended import of spices including pepper and areca nuts through the Entrepot Trade and Commercial Hub Operations to prevent these spices being re-shipped from Sri Lanka to India as Sri Lankan products.
5. Sri Lanka has also agreed to facilitate the visit of a technical team to examine the existing procedures in Sri Lanka for issuing Certificate of Origin and the new mechanism set up by Sri Lanka for verification of authenticity of certificates issued for black pepper shipments exported by Sri Lanka under ISFTA and SAFTA.
6. Instruction has been issued to authorized officers of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) and field formations of Customs to be vigilant at the point of entry in the ports in order to address the possibility of entry of inferior quality pepper from various countries.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1989
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

CUSTOMS DUTY ON US PRODUCTS

1989. ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to impose higher customs duty on products being imported from the United States after its decision to withdraw preferential duty benefits to India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed the impact of these decisions;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has held any discussions/talks with the United States on this issue; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

okf.kT; ,oa m|ksx ea=h (Jh ih;w'k xks;y)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a) & (b) The USA imposed a global additional tariff of 25% and 10% on import of steel and aluminum products in March, 2018. In response, Government of India has imposed retaliatory tariffs on 28 products originating or exported from the US with effect from 16th June, 2019 vide notification no. 17/2019-Customs dated 15th June, 2019 of Department of Revenue. The list of products along with the rate of additional basic customs duty imposed is annexed.
- (c) & (d) The retaliatory tariffs are expected to have an additional impact in terms of duty incidence of about US\$ 217 Million (approx.) on these 28 products imported from US.
- (e) & (f) India has been continuously engaged with US on this issue, as part of the ongoing bilateral trade dialogue. The US did not accede to India's request for withdrawal of these duties.

Annexure-A

Imposition of additional basic customs duty w.eJ. 16 June 2019 on 28 products originating or exported from the United States					
sl.no	HS Code	Commodity	Proposed Additional duty (%)	India's imports from US (US\$ Million)- Jan-Dec 2017	Duty likely to be collected (US \$ million)
1	7132000	CHICKPEAS (GARBANZOS) DRIED AND SHLD	10	29.68	2.97
2	7134000	LENTILS (MOSUR),DRIED AND SHLD	20	44.5	8.90

3	8021100	ALMONDS FRSH OR DRIED IN SHELL	17	580.63	98.71
4	8021200	SHELLED ALMONDS FRSH OR DRIED	20	28.76	5.75
5	8023100	WALNUTS FRSH OR DRIED IN SHELL	20	43.29	8.66
6	8081000	APPLES FRSH	20	96.57	19.31
7	28092010	PHOSPHORIC ACID	5	96.18	4.81
	28100020	BORIC ACID	20	2.04	0.41
9	38220090	OTHERS-DIAGNOSTIC REAGENTS	20	122.87	24.57
10	38249990	OTHER-BINDERS FOR FOUNDRY MOULDS	10	80.58	8.06
11	72101210	OTS/MR TYPE-FLAT ROLLED PRODUCTS OF THICKNESS >600 mm	15	10.48	1.57
12	72101290	OTHER PLATES,SHEETS,STRIPS	15	8.51	1.28
13	72191200	HT-RLD PRDCTS IN COILS OF THCKNS >=4.75 MM	15	20.03	3.00
14	72191300	HT-RLD PRDCTS IN COILS OF THCKNS >-, 3 MM BT <4.75 MM	15	8.43	1.26
15	72192190	OTHR NCKL CHR M AUSTNTC TYPE N.E.S.	15	7.35	1.10
16	72199090	OTHR SHEETS AND PLATES N.E.S.	15	5.09	0.76
17	72251100	FLT-RD PRDCTS OF SILICON ELCTRCL STL GRAIN ORIENTED	15	18.84	2.83
18	73072900	OTHER FITTINGS OF STAINLESS STEEL	15	12.18	1.83
19	73079990	NON-GALVANISED	15	13.17	1.98
20	73089090	OTHER STRUCTURE AND PARTS OF STRUCTURES OF IRON AND STEEL	15	6.39	0.96
21	73102990	OTHERS-TANKS AND DRUMS ETC.	15	11.19	1.68
22	73181500	OTHR SCREWS AND BOLTS W/N WTH NUTS	15	23.61	3.54
23	73181600	THREADED NUTS	15	7.93	1.19
24	73182990	OTHER NON-THREADED ARTICLES N.E.S.	15	14.61	2.19

25	73209090	OTHERS OF OTHER SPRINGS OF IRON/STEEL	15	8.24	1.24
26	73259999	OTHER CAST ARTICLES OF IRON OR STEEL N.E.S	15	5.7	0.86
27	73261990	ARTICLES OF FORGED OR STAMPED BUT NOT FURTHER WORKED	15	13.49	2.02
28	73269099	ALL OTHER ARTICLES OF IRON/STEEL	15	39.27	5.89
Total					217.33

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2009
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

INVESTMENT IN SEZs

2009. DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJI BHAI SOLANKI:

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

- (a) whether the imposition of Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) on Special Economic Zones (SEZs) units and developers have contributed towards the reduction of investments in SEZs and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken steps to enhance investment in SEZs and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government plans to launch an online platform for SEZs to facilitate ease of doing business for the developers and units and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of alternative measures undertaken by the Government for the development of SEZs; and
- (e) whether SEZs have contributed towards infrastructure and economic development of their respective regions in the past two years and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

श्री. पीयूष गोयल (Jh ih;w'k xks;y)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): The Government has withdrawn exemption from Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT) on Special Economic Zones (SEZs) with effect from 1st April, 2012. The details of investment in SEZs post introduction of MAT is as below:

(b) and (d): The following initiatives have been taken in recent years for promotion of investment in SEZs:

- i. The Government periodically reviews the policy and operational framework of SEZs and takes necessary measures so as to facilitate speedy and effective implementation of SEZs.
- ii. Minimum Land Area requirement for setting up of new SEZs has been reduced to 50% for Multi-product and Sector-specific SEZs.
- iii. Sectoral broad-banding has been introduced to encompass similar / related areas under the same Sector.
- iv. Dual use of facilities like Social & Commercial infrastructure by SEZs and non-SEZs entities has been allowed in order to make SEZ operations more viable.
- v. State Governments have been advised to make their own Single Window Clearance mechanism more effective.
- vi. Review meetings with the Development Commissioners of SEZs are held regularly.

(c): In order to facilitate paperless transaction for movement of goods for imports and exports from SEZs, a web-based platform - SEZ Online system has already been implemented. Further, a Mobile app named "SEZ India" having four sections SEZ Information, SEZ Online Transaction, Trade Information and Contact details was launched on 06.01.2017 to facilitate SEZ units/developers.

(e): Investment made, employment generated and exports from SEZs are the quantifiable criteria for assessing development of infrastructure and economic development. Details of investment, employment generated and exports from SEZs during the past two years are shown below:

Financial Years	Investment* (Rs. in crore)	Employment* (Persons)	Exports (Rs. in crore)
2017-2018	4,74,917	19,77,216	5,81,033
2018-2019	5,07,644	20,61,055	7,01,179

* calculated on cumulative basis.

Annexure to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question Nol. 2009 for 3rd July, 20-19

The details of investment in SEZs post introduction of MAT		
Sl.No,.	Financial Year	Investment* (Rs. Crore)
1.	2012-2013	2,36,717
2.	2013-2014	2,96,663
3.	2014 -2015	3,38,794
4.	2015- 2016	3,76,494
5.	2016- 2017	4,23,189
6.	2017-2018	4,74,917
7.	2018 -2019	5,07,644

* Calculated on cumulative basis.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2021(H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

IMPORT OF TOYS

2021(H). SHRI HARISH DWIVEDI:

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

- (a) whether any criteria has been fixed regarding the import of toys;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering barring import of Chinese toys in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

श्री पियूष गोयल (Jh ih;w'k xks;y)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): Import of toys has always been subject to Indian standards. The revised norms/ guidelines in this regard are in place since 01.09.2017. These guidelines are in the nature of standards which are primarily for safety reasons. As per revised norms, import of toys shall be permitted freely when accompanied by:

- i. a certificate of conformity to the standards by the importer as prescribed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and
- ii. a certificate of conformity from the manufacturer that representative sample of the toys being imported have been tested by an independent laboratory which is accredited by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), India.

(c) & (d): India does not maintain any country specific import restriction except for considerations like scientific, environmental, health & life of human, animal and plant. Adequate provisions exist to protect the Indian consumers as imported goods are subject to domestic laws, rules, orders, regulations, technical specifications, environmental and safety norms. Further, India has an elaborate and robust legal framework and institutional set up to protect its environment, life and health of its people, plants and animals. The BIS standards applicable to domestic goods are also applicable to imported goods.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2024
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3rd JULY, 2019

TRADE DEFICIT

2024. SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:

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

- (a) whether there has been a continuous rise in the trade deficit and if so, the details thereof, year-wise along with the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details of the targets fixed and achieved for import and export along with the details of the countries with which India's trade deficit has widened during the said period;
- (c) whether the Government has received representations from various trade organisations/export promotion councils to give impetus to exports and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to address their concerns;
- (d) the impact of trade deficit on the economy of the country indicating the sectors adversely affected thereby along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to boost exports to minimize the impact of the trade deficit?

ANSWER

okf.kT; ,oa m|ksx ea=h (Jh ih;w'k xks;y)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): India's overall trade deficit (merchandise and services) for the last three years is as follows:

(in US \$ Billions)	
Years	Trade Deficit
2016-17	-40.20
2017-18	-84.45
2018-19*	-103.63

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata and RBI (* Provisional)

The data given in the above table shows that the trade deficit increased in 2017-18 and 2018-19 as compared to the previous years. Trade deficit depends upon relative fluctuations in the imports and exports of different commodities due to the global and domestic factors such as demand and supply in domestic and international markets, currency fluctuations, cost of credit, logistics costs, etc. The increasing trade deficit in spite of positive growth of exports is mainly due to higher imports particularly of the petroleum crude and products electronic goods, iron and steel, chemicals and related products, Coal, Coke & Briquettes, Fertilizers, Machinery and Non-ferrous Metals, which contribute to more than 70% share in total imports in 2018-19.

(b): As per Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20, the Government aims to increase India's export of merchandise and services from US\$ 465.9 billion to approximately US\$ 900 billion by 2019-20 and to raise India's share in world exports (Goods and Services) from 2% to 3.5%. India's share in world exports (Goods and Services) has increased to 2.1 % in 2017 as per WTO estimates. The value of India's overall

exports (merchandise and services) and imports (merchandise and services) made in terms of US\$ billion during last 3 years are as follows:

(Value in US\$ Billion)

Years	Export	% Change	Import	% Change
2016-17	440.05	5.63	480.26	3.14
2017-18	498.63	13.31	583.08	21.41
2018-19*	535.86	7.47	639.49	9.68

Source: DGCI&S & RBI (*Provisional)

The major 25 countries with which India's trade deficit has widened during last three years are given in **Annexure-I**.

(c) to (e): Representations/suggestions to give impetus to exports are received from trade organizations/export promotion councils from time to time, which are taken into consideration as part of the regular ongoing process of review and reform of trade policies. Higher trade deficit is primarily because of essential imports to meet energy needs of the country and to meet consumer demands for those products which are not manufactured in India. Government has taken the following steps to boost India's exports and minimize the impact of trade deficit:

- i. A new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015-20 was launched on 1st April 2015. The FTP 2015-20 provides a framework for increasing exports of goods and services as well as generation of employment and increasing value addition in the country, in line with the 'Make in India', 'Digital India', 'Skills India', 'Startup India' and 'Ease of doing business' initiatives. The policy, inter alia, rationalised the earlier export promotion schemes and introduced two new schemes, namely Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) for improving export of goods and 'Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS)' for increasing exports of services. Duty credit scrips issued under these schemes were made fully transferable.
- ii. A new Logistics Division was created in the Department of Commerce to coordinate integrated development of the logistics sector. India's rank in World Bank's Logistics Performance Index moved up from 54 in 2014 to 44 in 2018.
- iii. Various measures for improving ease of doing business were taken. India's rank in World Bank 'Ease of doing business' ranking improved from 142 in 2014 to 77 in 2018 with the rank in 'trading across borders' moving up from 122 to 80.
- iv. A comprehensive "Agriculture Export Policy" was launched on 6th December, 2018 with an aim to double farmers' income by 2022 and provide an impetus to agricultural exports.
- v. A new scheme called "Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)" was launched with effect from 1st April 2017 to address the export infrastructure gaps in the country.

- vi. A new scheme called “Transport and Marketing Assistance” (TMA) scheme has been launched for mitigating disadvantage of higher cost of transportation for export of specified agriculture products.
- vii. The policy includes measures to nudge procurement of capital goods from indigenous manufacturers under the EPCG scheme by reducing specific export obligation from 90 percent to 75 percent of the normal export obligation.
- viii. The policy provides issue of Advance Authorisation to allow duty free import of inputs, which is physically incorporated in export product within a specified timeline.
- ix. The Mid-term Review of the FTP 2015-20 was undertaken on 5th December, 2017. Incentive rates for labour intensive / MSME sectors were increased by 2% with a financial implication of Rs 8,450 cr per year.
- x. Niryat Bandhu Scheme has been launched for outreach/ trade awareness amongst new/potential exporters.
- xi. Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit was introduced with effect from 1.4.2015 providing interest equalisation at 3% for labour intensive / MSME sectors. The rate was increased to 5% for MSME sectors with effect from 2.11.2018 and merchant exporters were covered under the scheme with effect from 2.1.2019.
- xii. A new scheme called Scheme for Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) covering export of garments and made-ups was notified on 7.3.2019 providing refund of duties/taxes at higher rates.

Annexure-I

Statement referred to in reply of part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question no. 2024 for answer on 3rd July 2019.

25 major countries where trade deficit has widened during last three years

(Value in USD Million)

25 major countries where trade deficit has widened during last three years				
Sr. No:	Countries	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19*
1	SAUDI ARAB	-14862.11	-16659.26	-22917.49
2	IRAQ	-10596.50	-16153.58	-20583.81
3	KOREA RP	-8343.93	-11900.80	-12053.69
4	IRAN	-8126.89	-8459.16	-10014.63
5	QATAR	-6861.66	-6937.14	-9110.54
6	JAPAN	-5908.90	-6239.13	-7910.91

7	NIGERIA	-5895.37	-7246.41	-7879.50
8	VENEZUELA	-5449.83	-5787.16	-7094.18
9	GERMANY	-4402.06	-4607.91	-6258.65
10	KUWAIT	-2964.29	-5800.03	-6096.90
11	HONG KONG	5843.06	4014.29	-4985.02
12	GHANA	-1257.52	-2074.27	-3046.08
13	TAIWAN	-959.25	-1769.58	-1970.04
14	MEXICO	516.47	-147.47	-1735.46
15	PERU	-380.27	-1616.18	-1684.37
16	ALGERIA	236.77	-437.75	-756.69
17	BOLIVIA	-94.02	-562.06	-747.50
18	BURKINA FASO	-141.48	-484.22	-699.83
19	VIETNAM SOC REP	3466.00	2794.53	-684.86
20	JORDAN	-305.84	-444.16	-537.43
21	GABON	-26.12	-350.31	-400.84
22	CONGO P REP	-20.69	-82.12	-272.77
23	BELARUS	-130.41	-160.23	-171.48
24	LUXEMBOURG	-34.60	-41.84	-101.83
25	SOUTH SUDAN	3.07	-67.02	-79.43

**Provisional, Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata*