

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

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 53
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP

*53. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:
PROF. SAUGATA RAY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to sign the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) if not, whether there is any confusion over the participation in RCEP and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether some State Governments including Kerala have submitted representations raised concerns on the participation in RCEP and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any discussion with the stakeholders with regard to RCEP and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether India has signed in the Free Trade Agreements, 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. 53 FOR ANSWER ON 20th NOVEMBER,2019
REGARDING “REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP”.**

(a) to (b) During the 3rd RCEP Leaders Summit which was held on 4 November, 2019 in Bangkok; India stated that the current structure of RCEP did not reflect the RCEP Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in the light of which India did not join RCEP.

(c) to (d) The Government held regular stakeholders' consultations with industry, exporters, and trade experts for taking inputs for formulating India's positions in Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Some of the State Governments including Kerala have provided specific inputs, which were taken into account in the negotiations.

(e) The details of free trade agreements (FTAs) and preferential trade agreements (PTAs) signed by India, with the details thereof are given at 'Annexure 1'.

A. FTA's already in force

S. No.	Name of the Agreement	Date of Signing of the Agreement	Date of Implementation of the Agreement
1	India - Sri Lanka FTA	28th December, 1998	1 st March, 2000
2	Agreement on SAFTA (India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives and Afghanistan)	4 th January, 2004	1st January, 2006 (<i>Tariff concessions implemented from 1st July, 2006</i>)
3	India Nepal Treaty of Trade	27 th October 2009	The Treaty has been extended for a further period of 7 years and is currently in force till 26 th October 2023.
4	India - Bhutan Agreement on Trade Commerce and Transit	17 th January, 1972	Renewed periodically, with mutually agreed modifications. Agreement dated 29 th July 2006 was valid for 10 years. With mutual consent, the validity was extended for a period of one year or the period till the proposed new Agreement comes into force. The renewed Agreement has been signed on 12.11.2016 and came into force with effect from 29 July 2017.
5	India - Thailand FTA - Early Harvest Scheme (EHS)	9 th October, 2003	1 st September, 2004
6	India - Singapore CECA	29 th June, 2005	1st August, 2005
7	India - ASEAN- CECA - Trade in Goods, Services and Investment Agreement (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam)	13 th August, 2009 for goods and November, 2014 for Services and Investment	Goods 1st January 2010 in respect of India and Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand. 1 st June 2010 in respect of India and Vietnam. 1 st September 2010 in respect of India and Myanmar. 1 st October 2010 in respect of India and Indonesia. 1 st November 2010 in respect of India and Brunei. 24 January 2011 in respect of India and Laos. 1 st June 2011 in respect of India and the Philippines. 1 st August, 2011 in respect of India and Cambodia. Services and Investment 1 July, 2015
8	India - South Korea CEPA	7 th August 2009	1 st January, 2010
9	India - Japan CEPA	16 th February, 2011	1 st August, 2011
10	India - Malaysia CECA	18 th February, 2011	1 st July, 2011

B. PTAs already in force:

Sl. No.	Name of the Agreement	Date of Signing of the Agreement	Date of Implementation of the Agreement
1	Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) (Bangladesh, China, India, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Sri Lanka)	July, 1975 (revised on 2 nd November, 2005)	1st Nov, 1976
2	Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) (Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe)	13 th April, 1988	19 th April, 1989
3	SAARC Preferential Trading Agreement (SAPTA) (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka)	11 April, 1993	7 December, 1995
4	India - Afghanistan	6 th March, 2003	13 th May, 2003
5	India – MERCOSUR (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay)	25 th January, 2004	1st June, 2009
6	India - Chile	8 th March, 2006	11 th September, 2007. The agreement has been expanded on 6 th September, 2016 and came into force w.e.f. 16 th May, 2017.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 487 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

FOREIGN EXCHANGE LOAN TO EXPORTERS

487(H). SHRIMATI RANJAN BEN DHANANJAY BHATT:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide foreign exchange loan at cheaper rate of interest to the exporters;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) Government is considering a proposal to provide higher insurance coverage to the Banks on their export-credit-disbursement and it is expected that it will enable Banks to revise their lending rate for export credit and to provide foreign exchange loan at cheaper rate of interest.

The proposal is presently under consideration.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 492 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

TRADE WAR BETWEEN USA AND CHINA

492(H). SHRI AJAY KUMAR MISRA TENI:
SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

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

- (a) whether keeping in view the slowdown in the international market and the ongoing trade war between China and USA the Indian exporters are moving to such markets which have greater potential for Indian export;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the likely impact thereof on Indian export industry?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): The current trade standoff between the US and China and the slowdown in international market is likely to have its impact on the imports and exports of countries, including India and may bring about a shift in the bilateral trading patterns.

The retaliatory tariffs between US and China have provided a limited window of opportunity for enhancing India's exports to China and US, particularly in products in which India is also competitive.

India's exports to both USA and China have increased in 2018-19 as compared to 2017-18. While the exact degree to which this increase can be attributed to the impact of US-China trade standoff is not clearly discernible at this point, the increase can be partly attributed to the fact that certain Indian products have gained in the US market due to higher duties on competing Chinese products and vice-versa for the Chinese market. The year-wise details of exports made to China and USA is given below: -

Country		Export Val in Mil. USD			
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Apr-Sep' 18 (R)	Apr-Sep'19*
CHINA P RP	10,172.41	13,334.42	16,752.80	7,810.73	8,483.20
U S A	42,216.48	47,882.34	52,427.52	26,176.51	26,734.20

**** The data for 2019-20 is provisional and subject to change.***

Source DGCIS

Government has sensitised all the trade promotion bodies to work towards enhancing exports by capitalizing on this opportunity arising from the ongoing tariff standoff between the US and China. The extent to which India can capitalize on the opportunity depends upon a number of factors including, the cost competitiveness of its products as compared to similar product of other competing countries in the Chinese and US market, and any other factors like generation of adequate exportable surpluses, market access etc.

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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 497
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

DAMAGE TO COFFEE AND SPICES PLANTATIONS

497. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

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

- (a) whether any assessment of damage caused to coffee and spices plantations in the States of Karnataka and Kerala has been made in view of heavy rains and floods in the regions and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government intends to provide some incentives and relief to coffee and spices growers to help them establish their plantation and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has constituted any Task Force to assess the extent of damage due to natural calamity and suggest suitable measures and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time likely to be taken to ensure that coffee and spices growers attain financial stability?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): The Coffee Board's Extension teams carried out preliminary surveys (current year) in the calamity affected areas both in Karnataka and Kerala states to estimate the extent of damage to the coffee plantations due to flooding/landslides and damage to standing coffee crop due to premature fruit drop and fungal diseases. As per the preliminary assessment in Karnataka state, out of the total bearing area of 2, 26,244 hectares, an area of about 97,365 hectares has been reported to be affected by crop loss of more than 33% and an area of 620 hectares is reported to have been affected by landslides/floods. In Kerala an area of about 850 hectares has been reported to be affected with crop loss of more than 33% and about an area of 16 hectares of plantations are reported to have been affected by landslides/floods.

As per the assessment made by the Directorate of Horticulture, Karnataka, 11502 hectares of black pepper, 3184 hectares of ginger, 573 hectares of turmeric and 25891 hectares of chilli have been severely affected in the State due to heavy rain this year with an estimated crop loss of more than 33%.

In Kerala, the Department of Agriculture Development and Farmers Welfare made an assessment of crop damages due to heavy rain. Crop-wise details of spices completely damaged are given below:

Crop	Pepper	Nutmeg	Ginger	Cardamom	Clove	Total
Area affected (hectare)	40.23	88.67	13.25	25.08	0.56	167.79
Farmers affected (Nos.)	3074	3542	456	530	56	7658

Source: Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development

Further, the Spices Board had assisted the State Government of Karnataka in the assessment of the damage caused to the cardamom plantations due to heavy rains in the Coorg district. As per the report, about 1800 hectares of cardamom plantations have been affected with a crop loss of more than 33%. The report has been submitted to the State Government.

(b) Under the extant provisions of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), relief in the form of input subsidy for agriculture crops, horticulture crops, annual plantation crops, perennial crops and sericulture is provided when crops loss is 33% and above. For the perennial crops, norms of assistance is Rs.18,000 per hectare.

(c): The Coffee Board, Spices Board and Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development have not constituted any Task Force during the current year to assess the extent of damage due to natural calamity.

(d): Coffee and Spices need a minimum of 3-4 years for economic yield after planting.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 501
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

EXPORT DETAILS PRE/POST DEMONETIZATION

501. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state the details of exports from India in each of the three years before and after demonetization?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

India's overall export (merchandise and services) of the three years before and after demonetization is as follows:

Year	Value(US\$ Billion)
2013-14	466.23
2014-15	468.46
2015-16	416.60
2016-17 (Year of demonetization)	440.05
2017-18	498.63
2018-19	538.07
2019-20 (Apr-Sept)*	266.63

*Provisional, Source: DGCI&S Kolkata and RBI.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 507
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

ESTABLISHMENT OF IIFT

507. SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is proposing for the establishment of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) at Visakhapatnam; and
- (b) 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) & (b): No, Sir. However, IIFT is establishing a campus at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh on 25 Acres of land allotted by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. In view of the campus planned at Kakinada, there is no proposal to have another campus at Visakhapatnam.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 564
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

DARJEELING TEA

564. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is shifting the quality control lab earmarked for testing the quality of Darjeeling Tea to Jalpaiguri;
- (b) if so, the manner in which the shifting of Quality Control lab from the hills to distant Jalpaiguri would help to control the quality of “Darjeeling Tea” which enjoys a unique “Geographical Indicator” status under the World Trade Organization; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to protect Darjeeling Tea from cheap tea of other regions, labelled and sold as Darjeeling Tea?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. There is no such proposal under consideration.

(c): For protection of Darjeeling Tea from cheap tea of other regions, Tea Board has put in place Darjeeling Trade Chain Integrity System wherein permission from Tea Board is required to deal/sale Darjeeling Tea. As on date, each packet sold as Darjeeling Tea has to mandatorily source 100% teas from Darjeeling only. Additionally, Tea Board has issued labelling guidelines for packers who intend to sell Darjeeling Tea.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 621
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

621. SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

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

- (a) whether India is becoming a signatory to the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and if so, the details thereof along with the names of the other signatory countries;
- (b) whether the difference between India and China and with other member countries and uncertainty in global trade is affecting the decision;
- (c) whether the RCEP is pro China which would affect Indo US bilateral trade and also reduce trade with the US and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the RCEP agreement will be beneficial for the Indian economy and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the RCEP would allow unfettered access of Indian market and also allow dumping of Chinese products into the Indian Market; and
- (f) if so, whether there are special mechanisms to ensure that the Indian economy is protected from the dumping of Chinese goods?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (b): During the 3rd RCEP Leaders Summit which was held on 4 November, 2019 in Bangkok; India stated that the current structure of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) did not reflect its Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in the light of which India did not join Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

(c) to (d): No Sir. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) recognises the ASEAN centrality of the negotiations. It was intended to facilitate and enhance trade in goods and services as well as investment flows amongst the participants.

(e) to (f): No Sir. The Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) had provisions on trade remedies which also covers anti-dumping rules. Moreover, India was seeking an automatic trigger safeguard mechanism (ATSM) for tackling import surges.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 636 (H)
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

TAX EXEMPTIONS TO INDIAN EXPORTERS

636(H). SHRI AJAY NISHAD:

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

- (a) whether the Government has given exemptions in taxes, particularly to the Indian exporters in view of competition in international market so that sale and purchase of Indian commodities become easier and profitable;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) the details of exemptions given during each of the last three years;
- (d) whether this kind of exemption is necessary and if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)&(b) Yes, Sir. In the current Goods and Services Tax regime, the exports zero rated to ensure that the goods produced in India for exports are not disadvantaged due to the domestic tax burden and stay competitive internationally.

Further, Under the Foreign Trade Policy, Duty Exemptions Schemes ensure that inputs imported/locally procured for use in the export products are either exempt from duties ab-initio, or the taxes are refunded to the exporters in the form of drawback after exports. Under the current Foreign Trade Policy, there are two duty exemption schemes, namely, Advance Authorisation scheme and the Duty Free Import Authorisation scheme .

(c) The details of exemptions for last three years under Advance Authorisation Scheme and Duty Free Import Authorisation Scheme are as under:

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	Number of Authorisations issued	Number of Authorisations issued	Number of Authorisations issued

Advance Authorisation Scheme	22853	21505	23042
Duty Free Import Authorisation Scheme	581	815	1321

(d)&(e) The duty exemptions under the Schemes ensure competitiveness of Indian exports in international markets and are compliant with India's international commitments.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 648
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

EXPORT-IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

648. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has followed/adopted any criterion for imposing/lifting ban on export/import of various agricultural products from time to time;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any study to ascertain the adverse impact on farmers/consumers of such imposing/lifting ban on export/import of agricultural products during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to formulate a long term consistent and predictable export-import policy of agricultural products;
- (e) if so, the salient features of such a policy; and
- (f) the corrective steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of farmers/consumers from the adverse impact of imposing/lifting ban on export/import of various agricultural products?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c) The export and import policies for agricultural products, which include the decisions on lifting/imposing bans on export/import of individual agricultural products, are framed keeping several factors in mind, such as availability of surplus over the domestic requirements (including the requirement of buffer stock and strategic reserve, if any), concerns of food security, diplomatic/humanitarian considerations, international demand and supply situation, price competitiveness, need to balance between remunerative prices to the growers and availability of agricultural products to common man at affordable prices etc. During the last three years, no bans have been imposed on export/import of any of the major agricultural products except for the ban on export of onions, which has been imposed only recently w.e.f. 29th September, 2019. As such, no study has been conducted in this regard.

(d) to (f) The Agriculture Export Policy, brought out by the Government in December 2018, aims at a stable trade policy for agricultural products, involving following steps:

- i) The processed agricultural products and all kinds of organic products will not be brought under the ambit of any kind of export restriction (viz. Minimum Export Price, Export duty, Export bans, Export quota, Export capping, Export permit etc.) even though the primary agricultural product or non-organic agricultural product is brought under some kind of export restrictions.
- ii) Identification of commodities which are essential for food security in consultation with the relevant stakeholders and Ministries. Any export restriction on such identified commodities under extreme price situation will be based on decision of a high level committee. Also, any kind of export prohibitions and restrictions on the identified commodities above would be taken up in a WTO compatible manner.

Consequent to the approval of policy, mandate of the Committee of Secretaries on 'Essential commodities' has been expanded to provide recommendation on export restrictions on a few commodities, which are essential for food security, under extreme price situation only.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 672
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

BENEFITS OF RCEP

672. SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:
SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:
ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to sign or withdraw from the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is huge apprehension from public over RCEP and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to address this concern;
- (d) the details of the salient features and benefits of joining RCEP; and
- (e) whether the Government has assessed the impact of RCEP on agriculture in the country including stakeholders consultation/study and if so, the details thereof along with the major benefits to the farmers under the scheme?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (b): During the 3rd RCEP Leaders Summit which was held on 4 November, 2019 in Bangkok; India stated that the current structure of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) did not reflect its Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in the light of which India did not join Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

(c) to (e): The Government has held regular stakeholders' consultations with and received inputs from the domestic industry, exporters, trade experts, concerned Ministries/Departments and State Governments. These inputs have been taken into

consideration while formulating India's position in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations, with a view to achieving balanced outcomes, balancing ambitions with addressing domestic sensitivities. RCEP was also intended to provide market access to India's exports to the region, including of agricultural products.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 676
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

INDIA INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR

676. SHRIMATI SANDHYA RAY:
SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:
SHRI SELVAM G.:
SHRI REBATI TRIPURA

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

- (a) whether the 39th India International Trade Fair is being organized and if so, the details thereof and the main theme of the said fair;
- (b) the details of foreign participants/ companies and countries who have registered to participate in this fair;
- (c) the details of the estimated number of MoUs to be signed and the quantum of foreign exchange earned/to be earned therefrom;
- (d) whether the participants from India and abroad in the trade fair are required to do online booking of booths, if so, whether they are facing problems in online booking of booths due to any technical issue and if so, the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to organize such international trade fairs in other parts of the country as well; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken to boost domestic trade through such trade fairs in the country and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल)
THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a) Yes, Sir. India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITP O) is organizing the 39th edition of India International Trade Fair (IITF) from November 14th to 27th, 2019 at Pragati Maidan. The Theme is “Ease of Doing Business”.
- (b) The details of foreign participants/companies and countries who have registered to participate in this fair are enclosed at Annex- I.

- (c) The fair provides a platform for facilitating B2B and B2C interactions which may subsequently lead to commercial transactions.
- (d) Domestic Private participation is done online. Technical glitches, if any, are addressed by ITPO as and when reported.
- (e) & (f) India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) also organizes multi-product fairs in North East in collaboration with Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME). Through such fairs, the trade and industry of the region is promoted including facilitating business visitors, encouraging participation of startups, etc.

List of Foreign Exhibitors		
Sl. No	Name of the Company	Country
1	Nawi Safi Bradaran ltd and NAWI AQCHI WAL LTD	Afghanistan
2	AMIN FORUZ LTD and Khkhe zar kashaan ltd	Afghanistan
3	KAMRAN SHAFI TRADING and MILAD JEHOON SADAAT LTD	Afghanistan
4	IQBAL SAPAND GEM STONES AND SEMI GEM STONES PROCESS and WAHID AHMAD S/O MIRZA MOHAMMAD	Afghanistan
5	Hasibullah Ramez Ltd and KHALID JALIL TRADING	Afghanistan
6	WALID RASHID LTD and Afghan Spehr Jahan	Afghanistan
7	TAMADON AGRICULTURE & SEEDS SERVICES COMPANY	Afghanistan
8	HAJI MOHAMMAD NASER SOHRABI AND PESARAN LTD	Afghanistan
9	Amanullah S/o Ziauldin	Afghanistan
10	SAFI GROUP LTD	Afghanistan
11	TOBA BASET TRADING LTD	Afghanistan
12	KING LTD	Afghanistan
13	MOHAMMAD HASHIM HUSSAIN ZADA LTD , SHAHIM TAWHID KARIM ZADA LTD and RASEKH TRADING CO LTD	Afghanistan
14	HAJI RAHIM KHAIR MOHAMMAD ZADA LTD	Afghanistan
15	KHWAJA MOHAMMAD AMIN LTD	Afghanistan
16	HAMAYOON BASHIR LTD	Afghanistan
17	TURKISTAN TIMOR ZADA LTD	Afghanistan
18	Tak dry fruit company	Afghanistan
19	BENAIE KHEDMAT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	Afghanistan
20	Sayem Rawof ltd	Afghanistan
21	HAJI AMIN SOFIZADA LTD	Afghanistan
22	SHADAB ELYAS LTD	Afghanistan
23	Hamraz ltd	Afghanistan
24	Shuaib Sohrab Shkib ltd	Afghanistan
25	SALIM SABIR LMD	Afghanistan
26	ALOKOZAY SAFFRON LTD	Afghanistan
27	FATANA BAYAT TRADING , NAJMA GHAIBI ltd ,Mursal Maryam ltd and SHERIN QAHRAMAN HANDCRAFTS	Afghanistan
28	KHAWHARAN HANDY CRAFT PRODUCTION ,Moskah leather and Ball Production co and SHAHIN GOHARI TRADING COMPANY	Afghanistan
29	Zwaak Trading Company and Zadrn Behsoond Ltd	Afghanistan
30	BENAZIR YAKTA TRADING and Mahmoodzada wood industry co	Afghanistan
31	MARJAN QUEEN TRADING and Frozan hadi trading	Afghanistan
32	ARMAN SABA LTD and FARID S/O MANARIS INDIVIDUAL TRADER	Afghanistan
33	KHANUM RASOULI HANDICRAFTS CO and RADWEEN INDUSTRIAL AND PRODUCTION COMPANY	Afghanistan
34	MOHEBURAHMAN HANDICRAFT COMPANY	Afghanistan
35	Saadat Banu Trading	Afghanistan
36	GUL E MURSAL PAPER PRODUTION FACTORY	Afghanistan
37	DANYAL HAKIM LOGISTICS SERVICES	Afghanistan

38	TOPSELLER CHEMICALS CO.,LTD	China
39	QINGDAO HEYUANLONG SPECIAL VEHICLE ., LTD	China
40	SHANDONG XIAOYA RETAIL EQUIPMENT CO.,LTD	China
41	SHANDONG LITTLEDUCK GROUP LAUNDRY EQUIPMENT CO.,LTD	China
42	SHANDONG XIAOYA GROUP HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE CO.,LTD	China
43	SHANDONG XIAOYA GROUP IMP.&EXP. CO.,LTD	China
44	ZIBO GOLD-STAR SPRING FACTORY	China
45	LIAOCHENG CROWN CRAFTSMAN METAL PRODUCTS CO.,LTD	China
46	HEZE FULIN WOOD PRODUCTS CO.,LTD	China
47	SHANDONG LITENG BEARINGS MANUFACTURING CO.,LTD	China
48	LIAOCHENG NZZC BEARING MANUFACTURING CO., LTD	China
49	LINQING ZHONGTAI MACHINERY CO.,LTD	China
50	SHANDONG MAN MACHINERY EQUIPMENT CO.,LTD	China
51	SHANDONG TENG GONG BEARING CO.,LTD	China
52	SHANDONG RINO INTERNATIONAL TRADE CO.,LTD	China
53	QINGDAO BOUNI CHEMICAL CO.,LTD	China
54	SHANDONG HOUFU MECHATRONICS TECHNOLOGY CO.,LTD	China
55	SHANDONG SHUANGGANG PISTION CO.,LTD	China
56	JINAN BODOR CNC MACHINE CO.,LTD	China
57	DEZHOU ZHONGTAI MACHINERY CO.,LTD	China
58	QINAI (SHANDONG) NEW MATERIAL CO., LTD (HEAVY RETURN TRADING LIMITED)	China
59	SHANDONG ADDISION TRADE CO.,LTD	China
60	LIAOCHENG LUSHENG CNC MACHINERY CO.,LTD	China
61	SHANDONG FURTHER BEARING CO.,LTD	China
62	JINAN KELID MACHINERY CO.,LTD	China
63	SHANDONG TEWOTE BEARING CO.,LTD	China
64	QINGDAO CAHTRADING CO., LTD	China
65	TOPSELLER CHEMICALS CO.,LTD	China
66	MDY GLASS PRODUCTS FACTORY	China
67	LINYI YANRONG TRADING CO., LTD.	China
68	TENGZHOU SHENGLUAN GLASS PRODUCTS CO.,LTD	China
69	TENGZHOU SHENGQUAN ARTS CO.,LTD	China
70	YANTAI YICHANG FINE CHEMAICALS CO.,LTD	China
71	SHANDONG CHARMING HOMETEXTILES CO.,LTD	China
72	HEZE TIANLI TEXTILE CO.,LTD	China
73	LINYI WANGONG INDUSTRY AND TRADE CO.,LTD	China
74	WEIFANG WISITO IMPORT&EXPORT CO.,LTD	China
75	WEIFANG MEIZHITAI BUILDING MATERIALS CO.,LTD	China
76	SHANDONG BOSI INTERNATIONAL TRADE CO.,LTD	China
77	TENGZHOU DESHENG STATIONERY&SPORTS GOODS FACTORY	China
78	SHANDONG PACIFIC OPTICS FIBER AND CABLE CI.,LTD	China
79	SHANDONG ZHONGQIN SOLAR ENERGY TECHNOLOGY CO.,LTD	China
80	SHANDONG BUNANHU NEW ENERGY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CO.,LTD	China

81	QINGDAO WEICHENG TEXTILE ENTERPRISE CO.,LTD	China
82	SHANDONG ADDISION TRADE CO.,LTD	China
83	SHANDONG MODERN BIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGY CO. LTD	China
84	LINYI BODHI TREE SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT Co.,LTD	China
85	SHANDONG CHENGYUN IMPORT EXPORTCO.,LTD	China
86	TENGZHOU BOCH INTERNATIONAL TRADE CO.,LTD	China
87	<i>Abbas Jamar LLC</i>	Dubai
88	Adhunika	Dubai
89	Al Khaleej Hadrami	Qatar
90	Al Noor Diamond and Jewellery	Dubai
91	Al Talib Handicrafts and Linen	Dubai
92	Al Thania	Thailand
93	Ali Baba Textile Trading LLC	Thailand
94	Almadar Carpet	Thailand
95	Alta Auro Asia Ltd	Iran
96	Anada Ltd.	South Korea
97	Anong Thaisilk ltd., Part	Thailand
98	Arad Dry Fruits	Ethiopia
99	<i>Cuckoo Homesys Co. Ltd</i>	Sharjah
100	Curio Tour Travel Co. Ltd	Dubai
101	Embassy of Nepal	Thailand
102	Embassy of Republic of Indonesia	Hong Kong
103	Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam	Malaysia
104	ES International Co. Ltd	Afghanistan
105	Ess-Kedar Mihret Yemer	Hong Kong
106	Floral TR Co. LLC	Myanmar
107	Goldcross Co. Ltd.	Thailand
108	Grolier Inc.	Hong Kong
109	Gurukripa International Trade Limited	Dubai
110	High Confidence General Trading	Tunisia
111	<i>Hongkong Huida Commercial Limited</i>	Egypt
112	Hongkong Trade Development Council (HKTDC)	Uganda
113	Htake Htar Lay Gems & Jewellery	Iran
114	Iran Palace	Qatar
115	Jade Kamol Group Ltd Part	Hong Kong
116	JSR Technologies	Ghana
117	Khasiyat Enterprises Pvt Ltd	Bahrain
118	MAD Daoud Mohamed Amine	Thailand
119	Maher Technologies	South Africa
120	Milano Bazar	Iran
121	Ministry of Industry and Commerce of Afghanistan	Afghanistan
122	New Majestic Packaging Solution	Iran
123	<i>Nexst Go</i>	Iran
124	Niavaran Co.	Tunisia
125	On Dot Packaging Solution	Dubai

126	Pattthai Intertrade Co. Ltd.	Bahrain
127	Sadaf Manufacturing	Thailand
128	Samen Food Company	Hong Kong
129	Samsor Bann	Turkey
130	Shadab Elyas Ltd	Hong Kong
131	Shandong Brightway International Exhibition Co. Ltd.	Thailand
132	Silver Palace SP	Thailand
133	Silver Star	Thailand
134	Syed Junaid Alam W.L.L.	UK
135	<i>The Southern Pearl International Company</i>	Nepal
136	Tillo Hediyeelik Esya San.tic.ltd. Sti	Hong Kong
137	U-Like Trade & Industry Co. Limited	Afghanistan
138	Uniicon Co. Ltd	China
139	Usa Flora	Indonesia
140	Wong Pitak Export Co. Ltd.	Vietnam
141	World of Sweets	South Korea
142	Y.C. Eason International Co.	Indonesia

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 678
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th NOVEMBER, 2019

DECLINE IN EXPORT TRADE

678. DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:
SHRI A. RAJA:

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

- (a) the details of the country's Export and Export Sector debt during the last one year within the country;
- (b) whether both have dipped/declined during the last one year across the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State/UTwise, including Tamil Nadu and the reasons therefor along with the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government is also planning to introduce new Export Policy within the country or has received any proposal from any State in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the time by which it is likely to be implemented 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 (c) : India's merchandise exports has increased from 303.53 US\$ billion in 2017-18 to 330. 07 US\$ billion in 2018-19, registering a positive growth of 8.75% as compared to the previous year. The State/UT -wise exports including Tamil Nadu in 2017-18 and 2018-19 and growth are at Annexure-I. India's export sector faced many challenges in the post 2013-14 period due to accentuation of the global economic / financial crisis. However, exports have been growing on a secular basis since 2016-17 for almost three years and total exports reached a new peak of more than half a trillion dollars, for the first time in 2018-19.

Government has taken following steps to increase exports:

- i A new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2015 -20 was launched on 1st April 2015. 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 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.
- iii 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.
- iv Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit was introduced 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.
- v 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 63 in 2019 with the rank in 'trading across borders' moving up from 122 to 80.
- vi 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.
- vii A comprehensive "Agriculture Export Policy" was launched on 6th December, 2018 with an aim to double farmers' income by 2022 and provides an impetus to agricultural exports.
- viii A new scheme called "Transport and Marketing Assistance" (TMA) has been launched for mitigating disadvantage of higher cost of transportation for export of specified agriculture products.
- ix 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.

(d) to (e): The export policy is dynamic and is reviewed from time to time depending on the inputs/recommendations received from concerned line Ministries/Departments/States. A new Foreign Trade Policy will replace the current Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020), before its expiring on 31st March 2020.

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred question no. 678 for answer on 20th November 2019

State/UT-wise export during 2017-18 and 2018-19

(value in US\$ Million)				
S No:	States/UTs	2017-18	2018-19	% Change in 2018-19 over 2017-18
1	Maharashtra	69731.48	72809.28	4.41
2	Gujarat	66818.03	67412.15	0.89
3	Tamil Nadu	29754.22	30525.91	2.59
4	Karnataka	18052.34	17341.29	-3.94
5	Uttar Pradesh	13803.90	16289.17	18.00
6	Andhra Pradesh	13019.53	14085.63	8.19
7	Haryana	13263.41	13833.25	4.30
8	West Bengal	9148.22	10057.13	9.94
9	Kerala	7308.07	9834.25	34.57
10	Delhi	8713.88	9464.60	8.62
11	Telangana	6568.71	7168.26	9.13
12	Rajasthan	6952.05	7061.61	1.58
13	Madhya Pradesh	5249.96	6382.37	21.57
14	Odisha	7585.01	6303.36	-16.90
15	Punjab	5788.25	6038.07	4.32
16	Uttaranchal	1455.46	2351.18	61.54
17	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2051.25	2143.38	4.49
18	Goa	2103.17	2063.64	-1.88
19	Bihar	1345.31	1640.91	21.97
20	Himachal Pradesh	1221.67	1323.43	8.33
21	Jharkhand	1116.53	1252.79	12.20
22	Chattisgarh	1522.70	1244.10	-18.30
23	Daman & Diu	956.98	1053.39	10.07
24	Pondicherry	415.05	392.79	-5.36
25	Assam	382.35	369.90	-3.26
26	Jammu & Kashmir	148.31	196.43	32.45
27	Chandigarh	69.93	71.89	2.81
28	Meghalaya	85.13	53.86	-36.73
29	Sikkim	13.96	7.94	-43.15
30	Andaman & Nicobar	31.46	4.01	-87.26
31	Nagaland	3.92	2.78	-28.92
32	Manipur	1.33	2.66	99.48
33	Arunachal Pradesh	5.32	2.31	-56.63
34	Tripura	2.36	1.72	-27.13
35	Mizoram	1.07	1.41	31.67
36	Lakshadweep	0.64	0.41	-35.90
Unspecified		8835.22	21290.81	145.14
India's Export		303526.16	330078.09	8.75

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata
