

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Major Achievements for the Month of January, 2026

1. Trade performance

- Total exports during April-January 2025-26 are estimated at US\$ 720.76 Billion as compared to US\$ 679.02 Billion in April-January 2024-25, registering a positive growth of 6.15 percent.
- Total imports during April-January 2025-26 are estimated at US\$ 823.41 Billion as compared to US\$ 772.85 Billion in April-January 2024-25, registering a positive growth of 6.54 percent.
- Trade deficit for April-January 2025-26 is estimated at US\$ 102.65 Billion as compared to the deficit of US\$ 93.85 Billion during April-January 2024-25.

2. DGFT

- The Regional Authorities of DGFT issued 21640 Authorizations and Scrips under various FTP schemes viz., 2070 Advance Authorizations, 17880 Importers/ Exporters Code (IEC) and 1690 Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) during January 2026.
- DGFT issued following notifications during the month of January 2026:
 - I. Notification No. 54/2026 dated 03.01.2026 on Amendment in Import Policy & Policy condition of Low Ash Metallurgical Coke under Chapter 27 of ITC(HS), 2022, Schedule-1 (Import Policy).
 - II. Notification No. 55/2025-26 dated 16.01.2026 on Amendment in export policy of items under HS code 1101.
 - III. Notification No. 56/2026 dated 29.01.2026 regarding Amendment in import policy and policy condition of Penicillins and its salts, 6-APA and Amoxycilline and its salts falling under ITC (HS) Code 29411010, 29411050 and 29411030, respectively of Chapter-29 of ITC(HS), 2022, Schedule-1 (Import Policy).
- DGFT has successfully concluded the first round of allocation of Gold Tariff Rate Quota (TRQ) through an online auction mechanism for the first time. The auction witnessed participation from more than 500 Micro and Small Enterprises, resulting in the successful allocation of over 8.29 metric tonnes of gold.
- DGFT has notified the procedures for the second round of allocation of Gold TRQ for an 80 metric tonnes through online auction platform.

3. DGTR

- DGTR has issued following initiation notification(s) during the month of January 2026:
 - i. Initiation of sunset review anti-dumping investigation concerning imports of Phthalic Anhydride (PAN) from China PR, Korea RP, and Thailand
- CBIC has extended applicability of anti-dumping duty on the following product(s):
 - i. Import of "Normal Butanol or N-Butyl Alcohol" originating in or exported from European Union, Malaysia, Singapore, South Africa, and USA upto July 12, 2026.
 - ii. Import of "Flexible Slabstock Polyol of molecular weight 3000-4000" originating in or exported from Saudi Arabia and UAE upto June 17, 2026.

4. SEZ

- The Development Commissioners of various SEZs during the month of January 2026 have approved the proposals of investment of ₹4330.99 crores, which are likely to provide direct employment to 13662 persons.

5. Export Infrastructure

During the month of January 2026, following funds were sanctioned for projects under Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES):

- i. Rs. 0.685 Crore (2nd tranche of 2nd & final installment of TIES Grant) to UP Handicraft Development & Marketing Corporation (UPHDMC) for the project 'Development Trade Promotion Centre at Gomti Nagar, Lucknow'.

6. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA)

- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh inaugurated the Regional Office of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in Raipur on 10th January 2026 during the 2nd India International Rice Summit, in the presence of Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Minister of Medical Education, Chhattisgarh, and other dignitaries.
- APEDA, with the Government of Assam, organized its participation for the North East Conclave cum Buyer Seller Meet in Guwahati on 19th January 2026 to strengthen agri-export linkages and enhance market access for Assam's agricultural and processed food products.
- APEDA participated in Indusfood 2026 held from 8th to 10th January 2026 at India Exposition Mart Limited (IEML), Greater Noida. The event showcased India's growing strength and competitiveness in agricultural and processed food exports.
- India organized its participation as the Partner Country at Gulfood 2026 the world's largest annual food and beverage trade exhibition, held from 26-30 January 2026 in Dubai, as the Country Partner. This year, India recorded its largest-ever participation with over 600 Indian companies exhibiting across multiple categories, including staples, fresh produce, processed foods, beverages, agri-tech and food processing.

7. MPEDA

- MPEDA and co-exhibitors participated in Gulfood (26-30 Jan 2026).
- Conducted state-level workshops on boosting seafood exports in all coastal states/UTs, co-chaired by Joint Secretary (DoF) and MPEDA Chairman; included DoC, DoF, MoFPI, EIC/EIA, CAA, NFDB, FSSAI, ICAR, ports, customs, state fisheries, farmers, and exporters.
- Organized hands-on training on seafood value addition for 100 processing workers.
- Ran 97 awareness campaigns for 1,336 aquaculture farmers to curb use of unauthorized antibiotics/substances.
- Held 15 TED awareness programs in coastal states for 325 fishers/boatowners; plus boat-to-boat campaigns reaching 438 stakeholders.
- Conducted HACCP training in Kolkata (20-23 Jan 2026); 25 participants qualified.

8. Tobacco Board

- Tobacco Board distributed a total of 12,450.60 metric tonnes of essential fertilizers (including Ammonium Sulphate, DAP, SOP, and Calcium Nitrate) to Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco growers in the Northern Light Soil (NLS) region of Andhra Pradesh.
- For grower training & quality management, Tobacco Board conducted the third phase of intensive training for growers and staff focusing on Crop Protection Agent (CPA) residue management,

elimination of Non-Tobacco Related Materials (NTRMs), and optimized topping techniques across major tobacco-growing clusters in Andhra Pradesh.

- Tobacco Board organized a high-level consultative session on "Implementing the European Green Deal: Strategies for Sustainability and Global Compliance" at ICAR-CTRI, Rajahmundry, involving scientists, exporters, and progressive growers to ensure long-term export competitiveness in European markets.

9. FT (Oceania) Division

- Bilateral discussions were held between Commerce Secretary and Australian High Commissioner in Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi on 30th January 2026. In order to strengthen the economic partnership between both countries, both sides discussed the way forward for the ongoing Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) negotiations and explored the potential timelines. Next round is likely to be held in April 2026.

10. FT (ASEAN) Division

- The 9th JTC meeting took place on January 21, 2026, in Nay Pyi Taw, co-chaired by Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India and Myanmar's Deputy Minister of Commerce. Key discussions focused on Re-opening border trade posts and upgrading border infrastructure and promoting a Rupee-Kyat trade settlement mechanism and streamlining transactions and maximizing the benefits of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA).
- A meeting between Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of the State of Pulau Pinang, Malaysia, and Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry was held on 8th January 2026 to discuss Semiconductor ecosystem and supply chain in Penang, Malaysia.

11. FT (NAFTA) Division

- **USA:** As a follow up to the India-U.S. Joint Statement of 13th February 2025, wherein the two sides agreed to expand bilateral trade to reach \$ 500 Billion by 2030, discussions took place with the U.S. side at various levels to take the discussions forward.
- **Canada:** A meeting was held between HCIM and Hon'ble Premier of British Columbia, Canada on 17th January, 2026 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi to take the discussion on trade negotiations forward. HCIM met Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, Canada in a meeting on 29th January, 2026 in New Parliament House, New Delhi

12. FT (Europe) Division

- Hon'ble CIM undertook an official visit to Liechtenstein on 7th January, 2026. Under the India-EFTA TEPA, the EFTA States, including Liechtenstein, have committed to work towards USD 100 billion of FDI into India and 1 million direct jobs over 15 years. In the context of the same, HCIM's visit was aimed to intensify India-Liechtenstein and wider India-EFTA engagement.
- Hon'ble Prime Minister and European Commission President on 27th January 2026 jointly announced the conclusion of the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement (India-EU FTA) at the 16th India-EU Summit. India-EU FTA negotiations were formally re-launched on 17th June 2022 and lasted 14 rounds of negotiations in addition to continuous engagements thereafter. India has secured unprecedented market access for more than 99% of Indian exports by trade value to

the EU that also bolsters the 'Make in India' initiative.

13. FT (Africa) Division

- An Inter-Ministerial Consultation (IMC) was held under the chairmanship of Economic Adviser on 13th January, 2026 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi to prepare the agenda for the upcoming India-Kenya and India Tanzania Joint Trade Committee (JTC) Meetings.
- A meeting was held under the Co-Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce through Hybrid mode on 13th January, 2026 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi with SACU's side to discuss the text of the unresolved issues of the draft ToR for India-SACU PTA for its finalization.
- 4th edition of India-Africa Forum Summit (IFAS) is being organized by Ministry of External Affairs. In this connection, a meeting by Economic Adviser, Department of Commerce was held with CWTOS on 28th January 2026 at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi to discuss the key challenges and constraints faced during implementation of IAFS-III and new initiatives/areas of cooperation to be considered for IAFS-IV.

14. Indian Oilseeds and Produce Export Promotion Council (IOPEPC)

- IOPEPC spearheaded several initiatives to strengthen India's position in the global oilseed market, ranging from regional development in Gujarat to international trade in Dubai and seed innovation in Hyderabad.
- Global outreach at Gulfood 2026 grew with the Council leading a delegation of 6 exporters to the Dubai World Trade Centre. This provided a massive platform to showcase Indian oilseed innovations and value-added products to global buyers and traders.
- A National Consultation was hosted by ICAR-IIORS in Hyderabad with the Council focusing on technical hurdles. A key point of discussion was the challenge of meeting stringent EU aflatoxin limits for groundnuts, alongside the promotion of "Smart Seed" systems and sustainable farming practices to lower cultivation costs.

15. Government e-Marketplace (GeM)

- GeM recorded a Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of ₹3,90,690 crore during the first 10 months of FY 2025–26 (as of January 31, 2026) maintaining a strong growth trajectory after crossing ₹5.43 lakh crore GMV in FY 2024-25.
- As on 31st January 2026, the cumulative GMV on platform since its inception has reached ₹8.40 lakh crore for services and ₹8.90 lakh crore for Products. In FY 2025-26, The GMV of Services has crossed ₹1.99 lakh crore, while the GMV for Products has crossed ₹1.91 lakh crore as on 31st January 2026.
- The total procurement from Central Organization for January 2026 is ₹34,725 crore.
- 31 bids have been awarded, which are more than ₹ 100 crore in January 2026.
- South Eastern Coalfields Limited has been awarded two Bids for "Handling, Transport and Other Mining Services – Percentage Quote Based, valued at ₹ 4038 crore and ₹ 32999 crore respectively.
- Uttar Pradesh has procured the most Goods and Services from GeM with a contribution of ₹. 1,715 crore in overall GMV in January 2026, followed by Maharashtra with ₹ 969 crore and Chhattisgarh with ₹ 557 crore respectively.
- GeM enabled participation of 63,289 entrepreneurs during January 2026 who fulfilled over 7.93

lakh orders valued at ₹ 19,075 crore

- Creation of 542 product categories with unique products from each districts in the country to give impetus to Indian Government's scheme – "One District, One Products".
- More than 2.06 lakh MSEs led by women entrepreneurs are registered on portal. The number of orders serviced by women-led MSEs is more than 43 lakh, valued at over ₹ 81,672 crore.
- GeM supported the "Make in India" initiative by facilitating market access for over 36,583 start-ups, which have cumulatively processed order worth more than ₹ 53,009 crore.
- Capacity Building, Outreach & Engagement: GeM conducted 268 training sessions and 20 events during January 2026, benefiting a total of 12,735 participants, including 9,374 buyers and 3,361 sellers. Under GeM E-learning initiatives, 867 new users registered on the portal in January 2026, taking the total number of registered users to 26,681, comprising 6,454 Buyers and 17,227 sellers. In collaboration with Laghu Udyog Bharti Partnership, four onboarding workshops were held in January 2026, through which 195 sellers were trained.
- *Platform Enhancement & Governance*: Following new functionality was made live in January 2026:
 - i. Post contract Amendment for Lumpsum based services
 - ii. Technical Evaluation result functionality live for single packet service bid
 - iii. OEM panel enhancement – Order & Quality/ Warranty
 - iv. Evaluation of QCBS Bids (multiple H1 case)
 - v. Splitting for Scheduled Bid to RA for lumpsum based services and Custom Bid for services.
- Customer satisfaction on the GeM Held Desk remained consistently above 85% during January 2026, with first call resolution rates exceeding 80%.