

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4799
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

TOBACCO BOARD

4799. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:

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

- (a) whether the Tobacco Board has conducted any survey regarding the cultivation of tobacco in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of total area under cultivation of tobacco in the country during the last five years;
- (c) whether the total area under cultivation of tobacco has increased or decreased in the country over the past years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if such data is not maintained, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to discourage tobacco farming in the country and provide alternative livelihood to tobacco farmers; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) to (d) The Tobacco Board has not conducted any survey regarding the cultivation of tobacco in the country as the Board is mandated to regulate the cultivation of Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco only. As per estimates of the Directorate of Economics & Statistics in Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, the area under tobacco cultivation from 2016-17 to 2020-21 is at Annexure .

(e) to (f) Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has extended Crop Diversification Programme (CDP), an ongoing sub scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to encourage tobacco growing farmers to shift to alternative crops/cropping system in tobacco growing states namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal w.e.f. 2015-16. An amount of Rs.10 crore for CDP for replacing tobacco farming with alternate crops/cropping system have been earmarked for implementation of the programme during 2022-23.

**Annexure referred to in reply to Parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question
No. 4799 for answer on 29.03.2023**

Total area of cultivation under tobacco in India from 2016-17 to 2020-21

Year	Area under tobacco (000 Hectares)
2016-17	399.63
2017-18	410.62
2018-19	408.70
2019-20	404.29
2020-21	357.16

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, DA&FW

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4789
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

SPICES BOARDS

4789. SHRI VENKATESH NETHA BORLAKUNTA:

SHRI PASUNOORI DAYAKAR:

DR. G. RANJITH REDDY:

SHRIMATI KAVITHA MALOTHU:

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

- (a) whether there are two Spices Boards for Coriander in Guna in Madhya Pradesh and also at Ramganjmandi in Rajasthan and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there are also three Spices Boards for Chillis, one at Guntur in Andhra Pradesh, one at Chhindwara in Madhya Pradesh and one at Sivaganga in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the constraints that the Government is facing to set up a Turmeric Board at Nizamabad?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) to (c): No, Sir. Spices Board, a statutory autonomous body, set up under the Spices Board Act, 1986 is entrusted with the responsibility of promoting 52 spices including turmeric, coriander and chillies. There is, therefore, no proposal under consideration to establish a Turmeric Board or any other spice specific Board in the country.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4772
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

TRADE WITH SOUTH ASIAN COUNTRIES

4772. SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that South Asia is the World's lowest intra-regional trade region around the world;
- (b) if so, whether the Indian Government is taking any steps to increase the economic engagement with South Asian countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is considering the decrease of the Non-Tariff barriers to speed up the trade relations with neighbouring countries;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the details of India's trade relations with South Asian countries since 2019, year and country-wise?

ANSWER

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
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- (a):** This data is not available with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- (b) & (c):** Government of India continues to engage proactively with South Asian countries to promote greater intra-regional trade and strengthen economic relations. Issues impacting trade raised by these countries are taken up for an early resolution through established bilateral and multilateral interactions at Ministerial and Official levels. Improvements in trade infrastructure in the form of establishment and upgradation of Land Custom Stations, Integrated Check Posts, Trade Facilitation Centres and Border Haats etc. are carried out in coordination with the concerned neighboring countries. Assistance is provided under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme to Indian exporters, Export Promotion Councils, Apex Trade Bodies etc. for participation in events in these countries. Additionally, measures have been taken such as promotion of trade in INR

denomination, granting of credit lines and project loans, resolving buyer seller disputes etc. to boost economic engagements with these countries.

(d) & (e): A number of issues related to NTBs are resolved through bilateral and multilateral meetings under the institutional mechanism with neighbouring countries. It includes cooperation in customs, facilitation of trade through railways, land and sea ports, harmonization of standards, etc.

(f): Bilateral Trade data of India with South Asian countries is given in the table below:

(Figures in US\$ million)

S.No.	Countries	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1.	Nepal	7871.95	7511.62	11016.79
2.	Bhutan	1144.33	1134.02	1430.84
3.	Bangladesh	9465.49	10783.22	18134.30
4.	Sri Lanka	4704.61	4141.17	6812.16
5.	Pakistan	830.58	329.26	516.36
6.	Maldives	232.57	220.36	739.33
7.	Afghanistan	1527.42	1335.27	1065.40

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4769
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

MAI

4769. SHRI RAJU BISTA:

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

- (a) the details of projects funded under the Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme since 2019 till date;
- (b) the total amount of funds provided in this duration including the State-wise breakup of funds provided/utilized under this scheme;
- (c) the details and the share of projects under the MAI that has supported cottage industries and handicraft units;
- (d) whether the Foreign Trade Facilitation portal is functional; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
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(a) & (b): Under the Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme, assistance is given to Export Promotion Councils, Trade Bodies, Commodity Boards etc. for undertaking various export facilitation and promotion activities. The details of the activities approved under the MAI Scheme and the funds utilised under the Scheme since FY 2019-20 till date are as under:

Financial Year	No. of activities approved	Fund allocated for the Scheme (in ₹Crore)	Fund utilised (in ₹ Crore)
2019-20	490	325.00	325.00
2020-21	240	171.40	171.40
2021-22	424	140.00	140.00
2022-23 (as on 27.3.2023)	522	190.00	159.91

(c) The funds released under the Scheme since 2019-20 to the Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC), the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), and the Handloom Export Promotion Council (HEPC), which mainly cater to the cottage industries and handicraft units are as under:

Financial Year	CEPC	EPCH	HEPC
2019-20	10.55	8.91	2.27
2020-21	2.38	5.01	1.75
2021-22	0	0.84	0.08
2022-23 (as on 27.3.2023)	5.34	2.64	3.20

(d) & (e): The Indian Trade Portal (www.indiantradeportal.in), developed and maintained by the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), caters to the needs of EXIM community. The facilitation provided by the Indian Trade Portal to the exporters includes product-wise countries tariff/preferential tariff information applicable for Indian products, rules of origin, market access requirements, Export-Import policy, export benefits, etc. Further, the Trade/Tender Queries are published by the Indian Missions abroad on the portal to enable Indian exporters to get maximum benefits out of it.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4759
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

EXPORT OF RED CHILLI

4759. SHRI KOTHA PRABHAKAR REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Teja variety of red chilli is being exported to China, Bangladesh and a few other South Asian countries from Khammam mainly through the Chennai and other ports;
- (b) if so, whether the volume of exports of the commodity is picking up in tune with growing requirements of the spice processing industries;
- (c) whether despite the huge demand for Teja red chilli in the international market, farmers are finding it difficult to recover the investment due to sharp escalation of cultivation cost and also due to absence of MSP;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the farmers who can afford to keep huge stocks in cold storages for longer duration are reaping rich dividends of the huge export potential of the commodity; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof since 2014 onwards till date, State-wise, particularly from Khammam and Guntur?

ANSWER

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

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

(a): Yes, Sir. Khammam District in Telangana is one of the major producers of Teja variety of Red Chilli and this Teja variety is being exported from India to different destinations like Bangladesh etc. The major port of shipment for Chilli from India is Chennai port.

(b): The variety wise export details of chilli from India are not available as there are no separate ITC HS codes for different varieties of chilli. The export of chilli from India increased from 4,43,900 MT in 2017-18 to 5,57,168 MT in 2021-22.

(c) & (d): Teja red chilli has huge demand in international markets because of its quality, which includes high pungency and very good colour. In 2021-22, the chilli production was affected by an

invasive pest, black thrips (*Thripsparvispinus* Karny), in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and the higher cost of cultivation was due to extra investment on black thrips management. Further, during 2022-23, the prices have increased and the annual average price of chilli in Guntur Market in the last five years and current year is given below:-

Guntur Market- Chilli	
Year	Price (₹/quintal)
2017-18	5639
2018-19	7716
2019-20	11636
2020-21	10272
2021-22	11267
2022-23 (April to Feb)	16417

Source: Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development

(e) & (f): The chilli prices, usually, are higher during off season than during harvesting season. It is a regular practice for farmers to keep stocks in cold storages for meeting demand in off season.

The data on state-wise production of chillies is attached as Annexure-I. The data on production of chillies in Khammam & Guntur districts is attached as Annexure-II.

Annexure –I

Annexure referred to in reply to Parts (e) and (f) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4759 for answer on 29.03.2023.

Production of Red Chillies in India – Statewise

(Production in ‘000 tonnes)

State	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Andhra Pradesh	601.993	739.621	618.420	1031.338	618.348	501.407	805.026	796.653	417.813
Arunachal Pradesh	4.4	7.5	8.288	7.000	0.807	0.851	0.851	2.377	0.005
Assam	16.476	18.381	17.736	18.207	18.994	18.984	21.867	20.189	20.611
Bihar	4.591	2.734	2.051	3.022	2.733	4.756	4.713	3.652	3.617
Chhattisgarh	4.629	3.576	3.039	4.321	1.498	3.049	3.249	3.249	3.107
Gujarat	33.304	26.936	26.910	26.031	22.072	21.444	18.905	23.345	28.778
Haryana	4.219	4.219	4.219	4.000	4.000	4.080	4.027		
Himachal Pradesh	0.653	0.15	0.217	0.239	0.239	0.199	0.276	0.397	0.433
Jammu & Kashmir	0.6757	0.3463	0.532	0.532	0.346	0.540	0.556	0.551	0.512
Karnataka	114.154	118.488	103.242	260.143	191.475	194.758	129.238	147.049	177.311
Madhya Pradesh	132.39	100.171	132.438	303.626	232.699	217.548	208.634	315.598	319.824
Maharashtra	35.875	35.875	35.875	3.432	14.134	14.025	22.434	24.484	19.876

Manipur	3.9	3.9	3.900	3.900	3.900	0.001	0.001		1.560
Mizoram	9.1	9.33	9.330	10.918	10.918	10.918	10.918	10.918	10.918
Nagaland	47.904	48.791	50.391	40.887	0.805	1.798	1.754	4.328	1.572
Orissa	74.367	73.575	68.567	69.166	69.280	69.280	69.280	69.280	69.257
Punjab	17.7	17.7	14.084	14.084	14.084	16.656	16.955	17.630	19.963
Rajasthan	11.456	12.92	18.218	18.781	13.282	14.356	20.033	10.925	13.378
Tamil Nadu	11.294	29.391	23.762	20.585	18.108	14.000	29.618	25.057	26.382
Telangana	279.777	253.26	227.610	482.872	340.804	369.016	436.378	536.541	651.344
Tripura	3.7	3.7	3.700	7.208	6.312	6.545	6.664	6.698	6.960
Uttar Pradesh	10.951	11.149	10.260	10.260	12.578	12.716	11.808	12.065	25.410
Uttarakhand	7.2	7.2	7.200	7.200	7.200	9.474	9.632	9.685	9.334
West Bengal	100	98.48	100.338	100.338	105.750	8.300	8.576	7.821	7.783
Pondicherry	0.039	0.076	0.030	0.026	0.064	0.076	0.093	0.011	0.133
Andaman & Nicobar	0.605	0.605	0.605	1.474	0.300	0.781	0.313	0.118	0.340
Total (incl. others)	1534.1947	1631.5353	1494.691	2449.59	1,710.731	1,515.557	1841.799	2048.622	1836.222

Source: Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development

Annexure referred to in reply to Parts (e) and (f) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4759 for answer on 29.03.2023.

Production of Red Chillies in Khammam & Guntur (Production in '000 tonnes)

Year	Khammam	Guntur
2013-14	125.821	332.309
2014-15	114.077	408.521
2015-16	95.208	266.708
2016-17	114.374	507.830
2017-18	135.255	351.097
2018-19	107.101	262.570
2019-20	150.235	456.253
2020-21	174.056	411.662
2021-22	186.367	165.177

Source: Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4745
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

IMPORT OF VEGETABLE OIL

4745. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

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

- whether the Government proposes to import vegetable oil in view of the increase in the prices of edible oils;
- if so, the details thereof, country/quantity-wise including Indonesia and Malaysia;
- whether there is likely to be any adverse effect on the producers of oilseeds in the country as a result of such imports; and
- if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of the farmers?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) & (b): No. There is no proposal by the Government to import vegetable oils. The Import Policy of B □ □ □ C) □ □ □ □ □ □ □ B □ □ □ □ □ □ □ C , domestic Wholesale and Retail prices of major edible oils are on a declining trend.

(c) & (d): The Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, National Food Security Mission- Oilseeds & Oil palm (NFSM-OS&OP) from 2018-19 to augment the availability of vegetable oils and to reduce the import of edible oils by increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds (Groundnut, Soybean, Rapeseed & Mustard, Sunflower, Safflower, Sesame, Niger, Linseed and Castor) and area expansion of Oil Palm & Tree Borne Oilseeds (Olive, Mahua, Kokum, Wild Apricot, Neem, Jojoba, Karanja, Simaroba, Tung, Cheura and Jatropa) in the country.

The Government has launched a separate Mission for Oil Palm, which is the National Mission for Edible Oils (Oil Palm) - NMEO(OP) in 2021 to promote oil palm cultivation for making the country Aatmnirbhar in edible oils with special focus on North-Eastern States and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. NMEO (OP) has been launched by targeting an additional 6.5 lakh hectare area from 2021-22 to 2025-26. Both NFSM-Oilseeds and NMEO (OP) are being implemented in the country with the objective of augmenting the availability of edible oils by increasing the production and productivity of oilseeds and oil palm and reducing the import burden. Due to these major initiatives, area, production and yield of oilseeds has increased.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4728
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

TRADE WITH CHINA

4728. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that China is India's largest trade partner;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the details of imports and exports, year-wise from FY 2014 till date;
- (c) the details of India's trade deficit with China, year-wise during the said period;
- (d) the reasons for India's increasing reliance on Chinese imports for capital goods and intermediate goods;
- (e) whether India remains dependent on Chinese imports for chemicals and electronics despite PLI schemes for the same and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the Government's opinion as to why the PLI schemes which are meant to reduce India's dependency on China have failed to achieve its objectives?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) & (b): No, Sir. The largest merchandise trading partner of India in 2021-22 was United States of America.

(c): The year-wise trade deficit with China from 2014-15 to 2021-22 is as below:

(In USD billion)

FY	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23* (Apr-Jan) (P)
Trade Deficit	48.48	52.69	51.11	63.05	53.56	48.65	44.03	73.31	71.56

*(P: Provisional)

The trade deficit with China in 2004-05 was USD 1.48 billion, which increased to USD 36.21 billion in 2013-14, an increase of 2346%. Against this massive increase, the trade

deficit with China has since increased by only about 102% to USD 73.31 billion in 2021-22 from USD 36.21 billion in 2013-14.

(d): Most of the goods imported from China are capital goods, intermediate goods and raw materials and are used for meeting the demand of fast expanding sectors like electronics, telecom and power in India. The rise in import of electronic components, computer hardware and peripherals, telephone components, etc. can be attributed to transforming of India into a digitally empowered society and a knowledge economy. India's dependence on imports in these categories is largely due to the gap between domestic supply and demand. Some of the raw materials like Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) and drug formulations, auto components, mobile phone parts are also used for making finished products which are also exported out of India.

(e) & (f): The Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) in 14 key sectors, including sectors such as API/Bulk Drugs/Key Starting Materials and Large-Scale Electronics Manufacturing have been launched by the Government recently and these schemes will reduce dependency on imports and make India a competitive destination for drugs/electronics manufacturing and create more domestic champions apart from giving boost to Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Though the PLI schemes have been launched recently, they have started showing results. As on date, 717 applications have been approved under PLI scheme for 14 key sectors. Key sectors such as Large-Scale Electronics Manufacturing, Pharmaceuticals, Telecom & Networking Products, Food Processing and White Goods have contributed in achieving considerable amount of investment, production/ sales and employment. Investment of over Rs.51,000 crore has come through PLI schemes, which has led to production /sales of around Rs.4.5 lakh crore. As a result of the PLI Scheme for Large Scale Electronics, which has attracted large investments from global and domestic companies manufacturing mobile phones and specified electronic components, the Mobile phone exports from India touched the USD one billion mark (over ₹8,200 crore) for the first time ever in September,2022. In FY 2022-23, mobile phone exports have increased to more than USD 5 billion till October 2022, against USD 2.2 billion in 2021-22 during the same period.

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(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4716
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

GOODS AND SERVICES EXPORTS

4716. SHRI MANICKAM TAGORE B.:

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

- (a) whether India's goods and services exports are expected to cross \$ 750 billion mark this fiscal year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the trade deficit with China has been increasing year after year and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is taking steps to boost local manufacturing of quality goods which will help in containing imports; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) and (b): The overall (merchandise plus services) exports increased from US\$ 605.01 billion in 2021-22 (April-February) to US\$ 702.88 billion in 2022-23 (April-February), registering a positive growth of 16.18 %. Supposing the same growth momentum, India's overall export is expected to cross US\$ 750 billion for the year 2022-23.

(c): India's trade deficit with China has decreased progressively every year from 2017-18 to 2020-21. It increased in 2021-22 compared to 2020-21.

(d) & (e): The Government has taken the following major steps to boost local manufacturing of quality goods and reduce import:

1. "Make in India" was launched on September 25, 2014, to facilitate investment, foster innovation, building best in class infrastructure, and making India a hub for manufacturing, design, and innovation. It was one of the first 'Vocal for Local' initiatives that exposed India's manufacturing domain to the world.

2. “Make in India” has made significant achievements and is now focusing on 27 sectors under “Make in India 2.0”. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) coordinates action plans for 15 manufacturing sectors, while Department of Commerce coordinates 12 service sector plans.
3. In addition to ongoing schemes of various Departments and Ministries, Government has taken various steps to boost domestic and foreign investments in India. These include the introduction of Goods and Services Tax, reduction in Corporate tax, interventions to improve ease of doing business, FDI policy reforms, measures for reduction in compliance burden, policy measures to boost domestic manufacturing through public procurement orders, Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP), to name a few.
4. Project Development Cells (PDCs) have been set up in 29 Ministries/Departments to fast track investment in coordination between the Central Government and State Governments and enhance the pipeline of investible projects in India and in turn increase domestic investment and FDI inflows.
5. Keeping in view India’s vision of becoming ‘Atmanirbhar’, Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes for 14 key sectors [with an incentive outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakh crore (over US\$26 billion)] are under implementation to enhance India’s Manufacturing capabilities and Exports. These key sectors are: (i) Mobile Manufacturing and Specified Electronic Components, (ii) Critical Key Starting Materials/Drug Intermediaries & Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, (iii) Manufacturing of Medical Devices (iv) Automobiles and Auto Components, (v) Pharmaceuticals Drugs, (vi) Specialty Steel, (vii) Telecom & Networking Products, (viii) Electronic/Technology Products, (ix) White Goods (ACs and LEDs), (x) Food Products, (xi) Textile Products: MMF segment and technical textiles, (xii) High efficiency solar PV modules, (xiii) Advanced Chemistry Cell (ACC) Battery, and (xiv) Drones and Drone Components.
6. An Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) has been created in order to provide support and facilitation to investors for investing in India and to boost growth in key sectors of the economy.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4704
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

IMPORT OF CHINESE GOODS

4704. DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government is alarmed by a surge in imports of Chinese goods in addition to imports of raw materials and intermediaries from China worth billions of dollars, which negates its strategy of Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the total number of finished goods, raw materials and intermediaries that were imported from China during the last three years along with the amount spent on these items?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) to (b): The Government monitors the surge in imports on regular basis and bring it to the notice of concerned Ministries/Departments for addressing domestic constraints, supply rigidities and taking steps to correct these with appropriate actions. Some of the intermediaries and raw materials imported from China like Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, electronic components, auto components, etc. are also used for making finished products which are also exported out of India. Appropriate trade remedy measures are also taken by Government to check dumping, sudden surge in imports and unfair trade practices.

To boost domestic manufacturing, the government has launched Production Linked Incentive Schemes in 14 strategic sectors with the aim to make Indian manufacturers globally competitive, attract investment in the areas of core competency/cutting edge technology, enhance exports, integrate India in the global supply chain and reduce dependency on imports.

(c): Details of India's import from China in major commodity groups during the last three FYs may be seen at Annexure.

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (c) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4704 for answer on 29.03.2023.

India's imports from China in major commodity groups during last three FYs.

VAL (in USD Million)				
Sl. No.	COMMODITY GROUP	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
1	COTTON RAW AND WASTE	8.07	0.02	0.88
2	VEGETABLE OIL	0.56	0.22	0.91
3	PULSES	51.58	46.36	24.77
4	FRUITS AND VEGETABLES	48.41	36.69	37.88
5	PULP AND WASTE PAPER	24.34	20.84	24.37
6	TEXTILE YARN FABRIC, MADEUP ARTICLES	895.03	700.60	970.88
7	FERTILISERS, CRUDE AND MANUFACTURED	1820.93	1551.23	2953.45
8	SULPHUR AND UNROASTED IRON PYRTS	0.21	0.13	0.12
9	METALIFEROUS ORES AND OTHER MINERALS	261.54	238.42	372.64
10	COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES, ETC.	160.32	20.71	477.24
11	PETROLEUM, CRUDE AND PRODUCTS	340.44	183.63	431.32
12	WOOD AND WOOD PRODUCTS	784.43	525.75	707.27
13	LEATHER AND LEATHER PRODUCTS	236.49	114.30	178.92
14	ORGANIC AND INORGANIC CHEMICALS	5197.64	5693.70	8486.57
15	DYEING/TANNING/COLOURING MTRLS.	779.54	775.01	1211.26
16	ARTIFICIAL RESINS, PLASTIC MATERIALS, ETC.	3165.79	2741.78	4696.03
17	CHEMICAL MATERIAL AND PRODUCTS	2467.49	2721.34	3568.67
18	NEWSPRINT	0.00	0.01	0.00
19	PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES	61.24	45.20	74.07
20	IRON AND STEEL	2706.35	2208.84	2976.06
21	NON-FERROUS METALS	1855.26	1460.08	2312.12
22	MACHINE TOOLS	1026.74	1109.88	1573.18
23	MACHINERY, ELECTRICAL AND NON-ELECTRICAL	10865.44	10220.49	13664.89
24	TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	2470.58	2374.43	3104.84
25	PROJECT GOODS	438.28	347.92	196.45
26	PROFESSIONAL INSTRUMENT, OPTICAL GOODS, ETC.	758.15	930.46	1532.17
27	ELECTRONIC GOODS	21374.09	23936.27	35849.51
28	MEDCNL. AND PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS	2562.85	2903.41	3481.49
29	GOLD	0.00		
30	SILVER	46.26	51.76	139.44
31	OTHERS	4852.68	4252.76	5523.15

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4655
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

SEED INDUSTRY

4655. SHRI JUAL ORAM:

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

- (a) the challenges according to the Ministry, to boost Indian seed industry and help them explore global markets; and
- (b) the details of incentives provided by the Ministry for promotion of research and innovation in the biotechnology sector?

ANSWER

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

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

(a): The Government has been taking several measures to promote export of seeds. India has been a member of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Seed Schemes since October, 2008. India is participating in six OECD Seed Schemes viz. Cereals, Maize, Sorghum, Crucifers and other oil or fibre species, Grasses and Legumes and Vegetables. Participating in the OECD Seed Schemes facilitate the international trade among the member countries by using globally recognized labels and certificates. Since India joined OECD seed schemes, more than 250 Indian varieties of various aforesaid crops have been enlisted in OECD list of varietal certifications. Financial support is also provided to State seed certification agencies for implementation of OECD Seed Schemes to add to the seed exports from India.

(b): The Department of Biotechnology has set up Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) as an Interface Agency to strengthen and empower the emerging biotech enterprises to undertake strategic research and innovation, addressing nationally relevant product development needs. The Department of Biotechnology also provides competitive grants to the researchers in the field of biotechnology.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4669
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

US COOPERATION IN VARIOUS SECTORS

4669. SHRI UPENDRA SINGH RAWAT:

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

- (a) whether a meeting was recently held with the US Secretary of Commerce to discuss cooperation in various sectors;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the benefits towards unlocking new trading and investment opportunities through these interactions;
- (d) the details of the meetings held with representatives of different countries to improve cooperation in various business sectors in the last two years, year-wise; and
- (e) the benefits accrued to the country due to the interactions in this regard?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) Yes sir,

(b) & (c) US Commerce Secretary led delegation visited New Delhi for the India US Commercial Dialogue on 10th March, 2023. The Commercial Dialogue was co-chaired by Minister, Commerce and Industry and US Commerce Secretary.

The Commercial Dialogue is a cooperative undertaking at Ministerial level between India and the US to facilitate regular discussion encompassing regular government to government meetings to be held in conjunction with private sector meetings, with an aim to facilitate trade, and maximize investment opportunities across a broad range of economic sectors.

After the meeting a Memorandum of Understanding between India and the United States of America establishing Semiconductor Supply Chain and Innovation Partnership under the Framework of India-USA Commercial Dialogue was signed. The MoU aims to leverage

complementary strengths of both countries and facilitate commercial opportunities and development of semiconductor innovation ecosystems through discussions on various aspects of semiconductor value chain. It envisages mutually beneficial R&D, talent and skill development.

After the Commercial Dialogue a Joint Statement was issued. As per the Joint Statement, both sides announced the launch of a new Working Group on Talent, Innovation and Inclusive Growth furthering the cooperation on Start-ups, SMEs, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. The Travel and Tourism Working Group was re-launched to collaborate in travel and tourism sector. Both sides also discussed cooperation in standards, climate and clean technologies and clean energy facilitating business to business partnerships. The Joint Statement is available at: <https://commerce.gov.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Final-Joint-Statement-Commercial-Dialogue-10.03.2023-1650hrs.pdf>

(d) Bilateral meetings are ongoing process to sort out issues related to trade, promote bilateral trade and investment relations and create other opportunities. Regular meetings are held at different levels however indicative list of the in-person meetings held with representatives of different countries in the last two years at the Ministerial level in Department of Commerce are placed at Annex (List attached).

(e) The meeting between the representatives of different countries with their Indian counter parts helps to deepen trade and commercial cooperation between India and different countries and also provides opportunities to foreign investors to invest in the Indian market.

Annexure

Indicative List of Cabinet Minister and Minister of State level meetings with representatives of different countries by Department of Commerce in last two years.

S.No.	Meetings	Year
1	12 th Trade Policy Forum (TPF) held in November, 2021	2021
2	Meeting with USTR on the sidelines of G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting was held in Sorrento, Italy on 12 th October, 2021	2021
3	Meeting with US Secretary of Commerce on the sidelines of World Economic Forum Annual meeting 22-26 May, 2022	2022
4	Meeting with USTR on the sidelines of MC12 conference held from 12-17 June 2022 in Geneva	2022
5	Meeting with USTR and US Secretary of Commerce on the sidelines of IPEF Ministerial Meeting in Los Angeles, USA in September	2022
6	Meeting with US Secretary of Commerce during the visit to USA for holding TPF Meeting on 11 th January 2023	2023
7	13 th Trade Policy Forum meeting	2023
8	India-US 5th Commercial Dialogue on 10th March, 2023	2023
9	The India-Canada Annual Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment (MDTI) .	2022
10	Meeting with Canadian Trade Minister on the sidelines of MC12 conference held from 12-17 June 2022 in Geneva	2022
11	Meeting with Canadian Trade Minister at the sidelines of G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting (TIMM) in Bali, Indonesia in September 2022	2022
12	Meeting with Canadian Trade Minister at the sidelines of the G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting was held in Sorrento, Italy on 12 th October, 2021	2021
13	Meeting Mexican Trade Minister on the sidelines of the G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting which was held in Sorrento, Italy on 12 th October, 2021	2021
14	Meeting with H.E. Mr. Muhammad Lutfi, Trade Minister of Indonesia during 11-12 October 2021 in G20 Trade and Investment Ministers Meeting in Italy.	2021
15	Meeting with Mr. Lawrence Wong, Finance Minister, Singapore on the sidelines of G20 summit in October 2021.	2021

16	Meeting with Malaysian Minister of Plantation, Industries and Commodities, Ms Zuraida Kamruddin on 22 nd February 2022 in New Delhi.	2022
17	Meeting with H.E. Mr. Muhammad Lutfi, Trade Minister of Indonesia on the sidelines of DAVOS WEF in May 2022.	2022
18	Meeting with Mr. Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Senior Minister of Singapore on 7 th July 2022 in New Delhi.	2022
19	Meetings with H.E Mr. Agus Gumiwang Kartasasmita, Industry Minister, Indonesia and H.E. Mr. Airlangga Hartato, Coordinating Minister during his visit on 8-9 September 2022 to Los Angeles for IPEF Ministerial meeting.	2022
20	19th ASEAN-India Economic Ministers Meeting held on 16 th September 2022	2022
21	CIM along with Hon'ble FM and Hon'ble EAM had a 3+3 India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) on 17 th September 2022 in New Delhi. From Singapore, Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister for Finance, Government of Singapore along with Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Trade and Industry, Mr S Iswaran, Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations and Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Singapore were in the ISMR.	2022
22	CIM had Meeting with H.E. Mr. Zulkifli Hasan, Minister of Trade, Indonesia on the sidelines on the sidelines of G20 TIIMM at Bali from 21-23rd September 2022.	2022
23	Meeting with H.E. Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore on 12 th March 2023 in New Delhi.	2023
24	Meeting with H.E. Mr. Zulkifli Hasan, Minister of Trade, Indonesia on 14 th March 2023 in New Delhi.	2023
25	Minister of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment of the Republic of Cuba (MINCEX) with CIM held in New Delhi on 12.03.2020	2023
26	CIM with Dr. Nocolas Albertoni, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Uruguay held in New Delhi on 04.03.2023	2023
27	Ms. Anupriya Patel, State Minister with H.E. Mr. Alejandro Simancas Marian, Ambassador of Cuba in New Delhi on 31.05.2022	2022
28	CIM with Mr. Santiago Andres Cafiero, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Argentina in New Delhi on 25.04.2022	2022
29	CIM's meeting with Mr. Santiago Cafiero, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Argentina on Mercosur-India trade negotiation and ways to expand bilateral on 24.11.2021	2021
30	11th Meeting of the BRICS Trade Ministers (on virtual mode) on 03.09.2022	2021

31	On the sidelines of seventeenth edition of CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Partnership held on 19th and 20th July, 2022, bilateral meetings were held by MoS with Gabonese and Ethiopian counterparts on July, 2022	2022
32	India-Egypt Business Roundtable was also held on 25 th January, 2023	2023
33	10 th Session of India-Oman Joint Commission Meeting (JCM) was held on 11 th May, 2022 in New Delhi	2022
34	India-Oman Joint Business Council (JBC) was held on 12 th May, 2022 in New Delhi	2022
35	First Ministerial meeting of the Economy & Investment Committee under the India-Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council (SPC) held in Riyadh on 18-19 September 2022	2022
36	Visit of HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman Al Saud, Minister of Energy, Saudi Arabia, to India, on 21 st October, 2022 in New Delhi. Official engagements included Ministerial level meeting and Delegation level talks	2022
37	H.E. (Dr.) Nayef Al Hajraf, Secretary General, Gulf Cooperation Council, visited India in November 2021 and November 2022 and held bilateral meetings with Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister, Sri Piyush Goyal.	2021 and 2022
38	On the sidelines of the CII Partnership Summit held from 13-15 March 2023 in New Delhi, CIM met his counterparts from the UAE and Bahrain.	2023
39	Meeting between Trade Minister of Korea RP and CIM on 11 Jan 2022 to discuss the bilateral trade issues and review of progress of India Korea CEPA upgradation negotiations	2022
40	A meeting was held between the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Govt. of Japan and CIM on 11 Sept 2022 to deepen the economic cooperation between the countries.	2022
41	Meeting of 17 th India – Australia Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC)	2021
42	Bilateral meetings between CIM and Australian Trade Minister Dan Tehan held on the side-lines of G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial Meeting (TIMM) on 12 October 2021	2021
43	Meeting between CIM and Dan Tehan , Australian Trade Minister on 01.12.2021	2021
44	Meeting between CIM and Tony Abbott AC, Australian Prime Minister's Special Envoy on 02.12.2021	2021

45	Meeting between CIM and Dan Tehan , Australian Trade Minister on during his visit to Australia from 6-9 April,2022	2022
46	Meeting of CIM with Mr Tony Abbot, former Prime Minister of Australia on 25 April 2022	2022
47	Bilateral meeting between CIM and Senator the Don Farrell, Australia Trade Minister in the sidelines of MC12 meeting held in Geneva during 12-15 June,2022	2022
48	Meeting between MoS(C&I) and Mr Roger Cook MLA, the Deputy Premier of the State of Western Australia and Minister for Trade, State Development and Tourism on 13.07.2022	2022
49	Meeting of CIM with Damien O'Connor, New Zealand Minister for Trade held on 20.09.2022	2022
50	Meeting between CIM and Australia Counterpart in connection with entry into force of ECTA on 29.12.2022	2022
51	Meeting of 18 th India – Australia Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC)	2023

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4641
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

GULFOOD 2023

4641. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU:

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

- (a) whether India has participated in the GULFOOD 2023 held recently in Dubai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Indian entrepreneurs have showcased their agricultural, dairy, pulses and meat-based produce with focus on Millets and its products in the Fair and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any steps were taken to mobilize startups for export promotion of value-added products in the Ready-to-Eat (RTE) and Ready-to-Serve (RTS) categories; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) to (c): Yes Sir. The Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) participated in Gulfood 2023 held from 20-24 February in Dubai, UAE. Around 150 Indian exporters participated and showcased various agricultural and processed food products, including dairy, pulses and meat-based produce, with focus on millets and their value-added products. An exclusive millet gallery was set up during GULFOOD 2023, wherein participating Indian exporters exhibited their millet-based products, gaining wide publicity by showcasing their products before potential importers from all over the world.

(d) & (e): In order to promote export of value-added products in the Ready-to-Eat (RTE) and Ready-to-Serve (RTS) categories, APEDA has been conducting capacity-building programs all over the country and mobilizing start-ups producing such products. APEDA has also been organizing specific programs for promotion of millets and their value-added products with start-ups, Farmer-Producer Organisations (FPOs) and exporters in millets producing states. APEDA also implements the 'Agriculture & Processed Food Products Export Promotion Scheme', under which developmental activities are undertaken and assistance to exporters is provided under different components of the scheme viz. Infrastructure Development, Market Development and Quality Development. APEDA has also been collaborating with the Indian Missions abroad for participating in various international trade fairs and exhibitions, organising virtual trade fairs, buyer-seller meets etc.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4622
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

FOREIGN TRADE IN RUPEE

**4622. SHRIMATI MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:
KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken the initiative for carrying out foreign trade in Rupee;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the country-wise details of the foreign trade carried out in Rupee during the last three years?

ANSWER

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

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed invoicing and payments for international trade in Indian Rupee vide A.P(DIR Series) Circular No. 10 RBI/2022-2023/90 dated 11.07.2022. In terms of the said RBI Circular, the framework has been put in place for any partner country seeking to undertake trade with India in INR. Accordingly, banks of partner countries may approach Authorized Dealer (AD) banks in India who in turn may seek approval from RBI with details of the arrangement.

Amendments have also been made by DGFT in the Foreign Trade Policy to allow for invoicing, payment, and settlement of exports/imports in Indian Rupees. Amendments have also been made in the Foreign Trade Policy for grant of exports benefits and fulfilment of Export Obligation, for export realisations made in Indian Rupees as per the said RBI guidelines.

As on date, approvals have been granted by RBI to domestic and foreign AD Banks in 60 cases for opening of Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs) of correspondent banks from 18 countries, namely Botswana, Fiji, Germany, Guyana, Israel, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Myanmar, New Zealand, Oman, Russia, Seychelles, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, and United Kingdom.

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4615
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

NATURAL RUBBER

4615. ADV. DEAN KURIAKOSE:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry of Commerce has been allowing the WTO Bound Rate of 25% import duty;
- (b) if so, the quantum imported during the last five years and the quantum of import duty collected, year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to share a portion of the import duty so collected with rubber producing States like Kerala to subsidise rubber farmers in distress due to steep fall in the price of natural rubber, to fetch Rs. 250/- per kg. of natural rubber;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of the cost of production per kg of natural rubber as per the recommendations of the Rubber Board/Agricultural Cost and Prices Commission; and
- (f) whether the Ministry has been allowing import of compound rubber and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

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

(a): The bound rate of duty under Article 2 of the General Agreement for Tariff and Trade (GATT) 1994 in WTO for dry forms of natural rubber (NR) is 25%.

(b): The details regarding the quantum of natural rubber imported and import duty collected for the period 01st April, 2018 to 23rd March, 2023 are attached as Annexure.

(c) and (d): No such proposal is under consideration.

(e): The details of Cost of production of Natural Rubber (2021-22) as estimated by the Rubber Board is as under:-

Cost of production of natural rubber (2021-22)	
State	Cost (Rs/kg)
Assam	66.01
Karnataka	91.30
Kerala	90.64
Tripura	70.61
Cost: All paid out costs of labour and material inputs, interest on working capital and depreciation	
Tapping System: Once in three days	

(Source: Rubber Board)

(f): Compounded rubber is allowed to be imported under HS Code 4005 on payment of applicable import duty. In the Union Budget 2023-24, the rate of custom duty on compound rubber has been increased from 10 % to 25% or Rs. 30/kg (same as that on natural rubber).

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4615 for answer on 29.03.2023.

Import details for 4 digit CTH(Custom Tariff Heading) 4001 for period 01-Apr-2018 to 23-Mar-2023

SL No.	Year	Quantity	Unit	Assessable Value(In Rs.)	Import Duty(In Rs.)
1	2018 - 2019	503755830.26	KGS	53341997571.41	10988251703.70
2	2018 - 2019	67962.731	MTS	4926114049	753703543.2
3	2018 - 2019	6	NOS	189939.9	9566.3
4	2018 - 2019	116	PCS	242766.1	9553.6
5	2019 - 2020	351793921.9	KGS	37605050418	6922313573
6	2019 - 2020	190703.633	MTS	9998906048	1804869262
7	2019 - 2020	508215	NOS	55833324.22	18868427.7
8	2019 - 2020	3.00	PAC	8674.97	537.70
9	2019 - 2020	300.00	PCS	554.27	187.80
10	2019 - 2020	1.00	UNT	9562.70	754.30
11	2020 - 2021	290939618.13	KGS	32155705699.13	4875249135.60
12	2020 - 2021	188340.066	MTS	10263809040	1725671921
13	2020 - 2021	1202	NOS	1929767.7	278973.2
14	2020 - 2021	570	PCS	104472.07	17697.2
15	2020 - 2021	20	SQM	243050.6	12845.5
16	2021 - 2022	372235235.3	KGS	52092000800	6657945222
17	2021 - 2022	119200.21	MTS	17484253942	2459114724
18	2021 - 2022	16608	NOS	2182581.67	271259.2
19	2021 - 2022	381.00	PCS	43514.45	16937.80
20	2021 - 2022	3.00	PRS	59.42	51.10
21	2022 - 2023	376906691.6	KGS	53832154526	7291757645
22	2022 - 2023	117549.753	MTS	17168992022	2510016372
23	2022 - 2023	151989	NOS	15451953.01	4398944.2
24	2022 - 2023	522	PCS	358250.91	4540.6
25	2022 - 2023	2	SET	249061.77	12522.4

Source: Department of Revenue

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4611
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th MARCH, 2023

TALKS WITH GERMAN CHANCELLOR

4611. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI:

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

- (a) the details of talks held recently in New Delhi between Indian Prime Minister and German Chancellor;
- (b) whether to boost trade ties, any Free Trade Agreement (FTA) has been signed;
- (c) if so, the progress of discussion for concluding India-European Union FTA; and
- (d) whether any bilateral trade agreement has been signed for strengthening economic trade between the two countries and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

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

- (a) The leaders discussed the strengthening of economic relations between the two countries. The German Chancellor expressed his support for the India-EU FTA.
- (b) A Free Trade Agreement is being negotiated with the European Union, a trading bloc which Germany is a member of.
- (c) Four rounds of negotiation for FTA between India and European Union have been held so far.
- (d) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (b) of the question above.
