

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3402
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31st MARCH, 2023

TRADE DEFICIT IN KEY EXPORT SECTOR

3402. DR. C.M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to global demand slowdown, some key export sectors including gems and jewellery, engineering, petroleum products, readymade garments of all textiles, chemicals, pharma marine products and leather recorded negative growth as a result trade deficit has widened, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by Government in this regard to boost export, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): While the merchandise exports during the period April 2022 to February 2023 have risen by 7.6% vis-a-vis corresponding period of previous year due to global slowdown and other factors, some export sectors including gems and jewellery, engineering goods, etc. recorded negative growth during the same period. Other sectors like petroleum products, electronic goods, readymade garments of all textiles, marine products, organic and inorganic chemical, rice, leather products, etc have shown positive growth during the current year (till February 2023) as compared to the same period of the previous year. Trade deficit has widened due to relative fluctuations in the import and export of different commodities and services, currency fluctuations, international prices, lingering Russia-Ukraine conflict, etc.

(b): The Government has taken the following measures to boost the export:

- (i) Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) extended upto 31-03-2023.
- (ii) Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit has also been extended upto 31-03-2024.
- (iii) Assistance provided through several schemes to promote exports, namely, Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) and Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme.
- (iv) Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Scheme to promote labour oriented sector export has been implemented since 07.03.2019.
- (v) Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme has been implemented since 01.01.2021. With effect from 15.12.2022, uncovered sectors like pharmaceuticals, organic and inorganic chemicals and article of iron and steel has been covered under RoDTEP. Similarly, anomalies in 432 tariff lines have been addressed and the corrected rates have been implemented with effect from 16.01.2023.
- (vi) Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been launched to facilitate trade and increase Free Trade Agreement (FTA) utilization by exporters.
- (vii) 12 Champion Services Sectors have been identified for promoting and diversifying services exports by pursuing specific action plans.
- (viii) Districts as Export Hubs has been launched by identifying products with export potential in each district, addressing bottlenecks for exporting these products and supporting local exporters/manufacturers to generate employment in the district.
- (ix) Active role of Indian missions abroad towards promoting India's trade, tourism, technology and investment goals has been enhanced.
