

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3890
ANSWERED ON 04/04/2025

**STRATEGIES TO COUNTER NON-TARIFF BARRIERS IN MAJOR EXPORT
MARKETS**

3890. SHRI SANJEEV ARORA:

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

- (a) whether Government is undertaking strategic shifts in trade policy to counter non-tariff barriers imposed by major export markets;
- (b) the measures in place to boost India's positioning in global value chains;
- (c) whether there is a roadmap to strengthen economic diplomacy for greater market access to Indian goods; and
- (d) the initiatives being pursued to protect domestic industries from unfair foreign competition?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) The Government is actively adopting a multi-pronged strategy to safeguard Indian exporters from non-tariff barriers imposed by major export markets. These efforts include expanding market access and diversifying export destinations, addressing tariff and non-tariff barriers through bilateral and multilateral engagements, and negotiating Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to create new trade opportunities. It is actively participating in multiple forums including like WTO, G20, and BIMSTEC etc and has Joint Working Committees' mechanism with more than 80 countries to foster trade. Additionally, export facilitation measures, e-commerce exports promotion, and performance monitoring with Export Promotion Councils and Indian Missions abroad are being undertaken.

(b) The Government has launched several initiatives to strengthen India's integration into global value chains. The Export Promotion Mission, jointly coordinated by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of MSME, and Ministry of Finance, aims to enhance access to export credit, facilitate cross-border factoring, assist exporters in overcoming non-tariff barriers, and support broader market access initiatives. BharatTradeNet (BTN), as announced in the Budget, seeks to streamline cross-border trade by facilitating trade document digitalization, enabling cross-border data exchange, and improving access to trade finance. Further, the Government is implementing schemes such as the Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) and Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme to promote exports. Other measures include the Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Scheme and the Remission of Duties and Taxes

on Exported Products (RoDTEP) Scheme, which enhance export competitiveness. A Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been introduced to facilitate trade and increase FTA utilization. The Districts as Export Hubs initiative identifies export potential in each district, addresses bottlenecks, and supports local manufacturers in expanding their reach. Additionally, the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan and the National Logistics Policy aim to foster integrated infrastructure development and improve logistics efficiency, thereby boosting India's positioning in global value chains.

(c) & (d) Government has developed a comprehensive strategy to strengthen its economic diplomacy and protect domestic industries from unfair foreign competition. The relevant government agencies constantly monitor and keep track of the emerging trade barriers and work with stakeholder by actively engaging in bilateral discussions with respective countries to secure market access. Additionally, whenever Indian exporters face Non-Tariff Barriers, efforts are made to resolve them either through bilateral meetings or by raising Specific Trade Concerns (STCs) in the WTO SPS Committee and TBT Committee. Further India has signed multiple Free Trade Agreement for granting preferential and predictable market access to Indian goods. Institutional mechanisms have been established to address non-tariff barriers. Additionally, safeguard measures, anti-dumping duties, and countervailing duties are being enforced to protect domestic industries from unfair trade practices, ensuring India's competitive advantage in global markets.
