

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 530
ANSWERED ON 07/02/2025

INCREASE IN EXPORT THROUGH FTAs

530. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

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

- (a) whether Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) signed by India previously have contributed in increasing India's exports, if so, details of such number FTAs, country-wise;
- (b) measures which have been taken by Government to strengthen FTAs to build robust structure of India's trade, if so, key findings and recommendations thereof;
- (c) new FTAs India has negotiated along with negotiations with Oman, Australia, UK, EU and in what manner Government plans to introduce lack of adequate industry and stakeholder consultation during the negotiation process of FTAs; and
- (d) the manner in which Government plans to enhance effectiveness of existing FTAs?

ANSWER

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

(a) India has signed 14 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and 6 Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) with its trading partners. These foreign trade agreements have contributed to increasing India's exports. A list of these FTAs and PTAs along with the corresponding export data is given in Annexure.

(b) to (d) The negotiations for Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with Oman, Australia, the United Kingdom, and the European Union are currently ongoing. The Government is taking necessary measures to ensure that stakeholder consultations, including industry representation, are conducted at all stages of the negotiations. This includes the pre-negotiation phase, each round of negotiations, and the post-conclusion phase during the implementation of the agreements.

In addition to this structured approach, sector-specific consultations are also being carried out to address particular issues as they arise. Through these consultations, domestic sensitivities and interests are being carefully considered during the ongoing negotiations. For agreements that have already been concluded, these concerns are being raised with the respective FTA partner countries during periodic reviews, and systematic follow-up is being ensured.

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.530 for answer on 07.02.2025

List of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Agreement	Date of Signing of the Agreement	Date of Implementation of the Agreement
1	India - Sri Lanka FTA	28 th 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	This Treaty shall be automatically extended for further periods of seven years at a time, unless either of the parties gives to the other a written notice, three months in advance, of its intention to terminate the Treaty.
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, for a period of 10 years.
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

Sl. No.	Name of the Agreement	Date of Signing of the Agreement	Date of Implementation of the Agreement
11	India - Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA)	22 nd February, 2021	1 st April, 2021
12	India-UAE CEPA	18 th February, 2022	1 st May 2022
13	India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (Ind-Aus ECTA)	2 nd April, 2022	29 December 2022.
14	India-European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA)	10 March 2024	Will be implemented after completion of ratification process by India and the EFTA countries.

List of Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs)

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, Sri Lanka and Mongolia)	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, 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, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam and 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.

Export with FTA partner countries

S.No.	Country / Region	EXPORTS (in USD Million)	
		2009-10	2023-24
1	Afghanistan	463.55	355.45
2	Australia	1384.96	7,940.75
3	Bangladesh PR	2433.77	11,065.87
4	Bhutan	118.86	963.73
5	Brunei	24.44	67.44
6	Cambodia	45.54	185.39
7	Indonesia	3063.36	5,988.88
8	Japan	3629.54	5,156.28
9	Korea RP	3421.05	6,416.67
10	Lao PD RP	16.93	12.88
11	Malaysia	2835.41	7,262.15
12	Maldives	79.86	891.89
13	Mauritius	453.43	778.03
14	Myanmar	207.97	670.37
15	Nepal	1533.31	7,040.98
16	Pakistan IR	1573.32	1,188.85
17	Philippines	748.77	2,097.17
18	Singapore	7592.17	14,414.27
19	Sri Lanka DSR	2188.01	4,116.90
20	Thailand	1740.16	5,038.97
21	UAE	23970.4	35,625.02
22	Vietnam Soc Rep	1838.95	5,470.15
	Total of FTA Partners	59363.77	1,22,748.08
Source: DGCIS Data			

Export with PTA partner countries

S.No.	Country / Region	EXPORTS (in USD Million)	
		2009-10	2023-24
1	Afghanistan	463.55	355.45
2	Argentina	269.96	1,085.75
3	Bolivia	9.77	71.41
4	Brazil	2414.29	6021.84
5	Chile	277.32	1182.94
6	China P Rp	11617.88	16658.91
7	Mongolia	7.98	33.15
8	Paraguay	37.05	212.25
9	Uruguay	48.33	520.83
	Total of PTA Partners*	15146.11	26,142.53
Source: DGCIS Data			
* Partners that have both PTA and FTA with India have been accounted for as FTA Partners			
