

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-701**  
ANSWERED ON 25.07.2025

**IMPACT OF FTA/CECA AGREEMENTS AND MSME EXPORT PROMOTION**

701. SHRI TEJVEER SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :-

- (a) the major industries that are likely to benefit from the India-UAE/EU Free Trade Agreements/Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreements (FTA/CECA) discussions that were held in April-May 2025;
- (b) whether any digital platform or interactive portal has been launched for the MSME sector to expand exports;
- (c) whether any special assistance schemes have been implemented for certification of innovative textiles and organic agricultural products; and
- (d) the awareness campaigns that have been run by the Ministry to make farmers and rural entrepreneurs aware of the benefits of these agreements?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

- (a) Key sectors that have seen an increase in exports from India to UAE since India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) came into force are Engineering Goods, Gems and Jewellery, Agricultural Products, Marine products, Pharma and Electronics goods. India and the European Union (EU) Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is under negotiation.
- (b) to (d) The Government has taken various proactive measures aimed at enhancing domestic capacities, boosting exports, diversifying supply chains and fostering economic resilience such as:
  - i. The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises is implementing International Cooperation Scheme (IC) Scheme, under which financial assistance is provided on reimbursement basis to the eligible Central/State Government organizations and Industry Associations to facilitate visit/participation of MSMEs in the international exhibitions/fairs/buyer-seller meets held abroad and for organizing international conference/seminar/workshops in India with the aim of technology upgradation, modernization, joint venture etc. A new component of IC Scheme, namely Capacity Building of First Time Exporters (CBFTE) has been launched in June 2022, under which reimbursement is provided to new Micro & Small Enterprises (MSE) exporters for costs incurred on Registration-cum- Membership Certification (RCMC) with EPCs, Export Insurance Premium and Testing & Quality Certification for exports.

- ii. Other schemes/programmes implemented by the Ministry of MSME include Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGTMSE), Micro & Small Enterprises-Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP), SFURTI, ZED, Incubator, LEAN, IPR, Procurement and Marketing Scheme (PMS) also assist MSMEs in boosting their export competitiveness.
- iii. The Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Scheme for labour-oriented certain items of textiles sector export has been implemented since March 07, 2019. Also, Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme has been implemented. Both schemes are in compliance with the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM Agreement) by applying the verification method to ensure that the remission/reimbursement under the schemes does not exceed the actual incidence of duties and taxes borne by the exported product.
- iv. Districts as Export Hubs initiative had 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.
- v. The government has launched Trade Connect ePlatform on 11 September 2024. Trade Connect ePlatform is an information and intermediation platform on international trade bringing together Indian Missions Abroad and officials from Department of Commerce and other organizations to provide comprehensive services for both new and existing exporters viz :
  - Trade Agreements and Tariff explorer;
  - Product and Country guide; To understand top markets, certification and compliance requirements, non-tariff barriers, anti-dumping duties and connect with buyers in various markets
  - Global eCommerce Guide- Information on top countries, eCommerce portals in the world
  - Trade Events Worldwide- information on events in India and abroad
  - EXIM Paathshaala- Training videos and material on international trade in English and Indian languages for capacity building of Indian entrepreneurs
  - Source From India- Public showcase of accomplished Indian exporters for foreign buyers to source from India
  - Certificate of Origin- Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been merged with Trade Connect ePlatform

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