GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2289
ANSWERED ON 07/08/2026

INDIA'S MERCHANDISE AND SERVICES EXPORTS

2289. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA

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

(a) the details of India's merchandise and services exports during the last five years, year-wise;
(b) whether Government has assessed the impact of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) on domestic industries and exports;
(c) the details of investments received under various industrial promotion schemes during the last five years; and
(d) the steps taken to improve India's ranking in global competitiveness and Ease of Doing Business indicators?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) Over the past five years, India's exports have demonstrated remarkable resilience and sustained growth despite persistent global uncertainties. Total exports surged from US$ 676.53 billion in FY 2021-22 to an unprecedented US$ 863.1 billion in FY 2025-26, the highest annual export recorded in India's export history.

Table: India's merchandise and services exports during the last 5 years (US$ billion)

Year	Merchandise Exports	Services Exports	Total Exports
2021-22	422.00	254.53	676.5
2022-23	451.07	325.33	776.4
2023-24	437.07	341.06	778.2
2024-25	437.70	387.55	825.3
2025-26	441.73	421.29	863.1

Data Source: DGCI&S

(b) India's network of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with key trading partners has substantially expanded market access for Indian exporters. India's export growth highlights its rising competitiveness and the expanding market access achieved through strategic trade agreements, reinforcing the nation's position as a dynamic player in global trade.

India's issuance of Certificates of Origin (CoO) more than doubled from 3.6 lakh in FY 2021-22 to over 7.8 lakh in FY 2026-27, indicating growing utilisation of India's trade agreements and expanded market access opportunities for Indian exporters. Moreover, India’s merchandise exports recorded a robust growth of 16%, increasing from US$ 111.57 billion in April – June FY2025-26 to US$ 129.32 billion in April – June FY2026-27. Merchandise exports to India’s FTA partner countries grew by 25%, rising from US$ 34.65 billion to US$ 43.14 billion during the same period. Consequently, the share of FTA partners in India’s total exports increased from 31.1% to 33.4% during the same period, highlighting the positive role of FTAs in supporting export growth and expanding market access.

However, assessment of the impact of the trade agreement is an ongoing exercise. The Government is consistently engaging with industry associations, key stakeholders, Indian Missions abroad, Export Promotion Councils, trade bodies, and relevant Ministries / Departments to advance India’s trade agenda and mitigate the impact of global trade uncertainties. Government aims to promote trade and economic growth through trade promotion, FTAs, trade facilitation and remedial measures related to import and export.
The Government is actively pursuing negotiations for new bilateral and multilateral Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to expand India’s trade horizons. These agreements aim to secure enhanced market access, boost trade in services, address non-tariff barriers, promote investment, and strengthen economic and technical cooperation. By leveraging trade complementarities, FTAs are designed to stimulate both trade and investment, thereby unlocking greater export potential, creating new opportunities for industry and farmers, and generating quality employment across sectors.

To protect the interests of the domestic industry and sensitive sectors like agriculture, dairy, and MSMEs, FTAs provide for maintaining sensitive, negative or exclusion lists of items on which limited or no tariff concessions are granted. In addition, in case of a surge in imports and injury to the domestic industry, a country is allowed to take recourse to trade remedial measures such as anti-dumping and safeguards on imports within the period as mutually agreed to by the parties under the FTAs.

Institutional mechanisms such as Joint Committees and Sub-Committees constituted under the FTAs are also utilized to review implementation issues and address concerns of domestic industry. In addition, appropriate Rules of Origin, trade remedy measures, including safeguard mechanisms, are available under the FTAs to address any adverse impact of imports on domestic industry. FTAs are regularly monitored and reviewed to ensure that India’s trade and economic interests continue to be adequately safeguarded and remain aligned with national priorities.

(c) The Government has implemented various initiatives to promote industrial development and manufacturing competitiveness, including Make in India, Startup India, Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes, PM GatiShakti National Master Plan, National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP), National Single Window System (NSWS), India Industrial Land Bank (IILB), Project Monitoring Group (PMG), liberalisation of FDI policy and the Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme (IFLDP). These initiatives aim to improve the investment climate, attract investments, promote exports, generate employment and strengthen India's industrial and trade competitiveness. In particular, the PLI Schemes, which constitute a key pillar of India's manufacturing and export competitiveness strategy, have promoted domestic production, enhanced local value addition and integrated Indian firms with global value chains.

As on 31.03.2026, under the PLI Schemes covering 14 key sectors, 892 applications had been approved, resulting in actual investment of over ₹2.40 lakh crore, production/sales of over ₹22.66 lakh crore, exports of over ₹15.20 lakh crore, and employment generation of over 14.15 lakh persons (direct and indirect) including 8.4 lakh direct jobs. Further, under the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme (NICDP), the Government has approved 12 new project proposals with an estimated investment of ₹28,602 crore for the development of world-class industrial infrastructure and manufacturing ecosystems across the country.

(d) To strengthen India's competitiveness in global markets and to improve in ease of doing business, the Government has undertaken several measures, including:

- Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) launched in 2014 to promote competitive federalism and drive business reforms across States/UTs. Through successive editions of BRAP, over 9,700 reforms have been implemented by States/UTs. The BRAP framework covers areas such as labour regulation, environmental clearances, land administration, construction permits and taxation.
- National Single Window System (NSWS) has been operationalised as a one-stop digital platform for obtaining approvals and clearances. The platform is integrated with 32 Central Ministries/Departments and 33 States/UTs, facilitating transparency, real-time tracking and reducing procedural delays.
- Under the Regulatory Compliance Burden (RCB) initiative, the Government has undertaken large-scale rationalisation of regulatory requirements. More than 47,000 compliances have been reduced, including simplification, digitisation, decriminalisation and elimination of redundant requirements.
- Through the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Act, 2023, 183 provisions across 42 Central Acts administered by 19 Ministries/Departments have been decriminalised, promoting trust-based governance and reducing legal uncertainty for businesses.
- Continuous FDI policy liberalisation, including expansion of sectors under the automatic route, simplification of procedures and investment facilitation measures, has enhanced India's attractiveness as a global investment destination.
- Reforms such as GST, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), digital public infrastructure (Aadhaar, UPI, Account Aggregator), customs digitisation and trade facilitation measures have improved business efficiency and reduced transaction costs.

Additionally, the Government has undertaken several initiatives to enhance export competitiveness including the Export Promotion Mission (EPM), expansion of market access through FTAs and trade promotion initiatives, strengthening quality and standards compliance, digital trade facilitation through services such as 24x7 electronic Importer Exporter Code (e-IEC) generation, e-Certificate of Origin (e-CoO) 2.0, and complete digitisation of Advance Authorisation, as well as platforms such as Trade e-Connect and the Trade Intelligence & Analytics (TIA) Portal, implementation of the Districts as Export Hubs (DEH) initiative, and support for export credit, logistics, warehousing, infrastructure and trade facilitation. These measures aim to reduce trade costs, improve ease of doing trade, diversify export products and destinations, and strengthen India's integration with global markets.

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