

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1120**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 08<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2023**

**TRADE DEFICIT**

1120. PROF. SOUGATA RAY:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of trade deficit during the last three years;
- (b) the reasons for the trade deficit;
- (c) the steps taken to maintain the balance among export and import;
- (d) whether the export is gradually slowing down; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to enhance the export?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

**(a) and (b):** India's overall (merchandise plus services) trade deficit during the last three years are as follows:

Years	Trade Deficit (in USD Billion)
2019-20	-76.4
2020-21	-13.2
2021-22	-83.5

Source: RBI and DGCI&S

Trade deficit depends upon relative fluctuations in the import and export of different commodities and services due to global and domestic factors such as demand and supply gap in domestic and international markets, currency fluctuations, international prices, etc.

**(c) to (e):** India's overall export (merchandise plus services) increased from US\$ 489.7 billion in 2021-22 (April-December) to US\$ 576.1 billion in 2022-23 (April-December), registering a positive growth of 17.64%. The Government keeps a watch on the overall deficit and takes measures periodically to address it. Specifically, the Government has taken the following measures to enhance 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.

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