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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2899 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15th DECEMBER, 2021

REGIONAL TRADE AGREEMENTS

2899. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

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

- (a) the list of countries with which India is planning to or negotiating an Regional Trade Agreements (RTA) currently;
- (b) the list of quantifiable benefits (without any jargon) of each existing RTA for India in the last five years, RTA-wise;
- (c) whether the RTAs have succeeded in investment creation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government is planning to renegotiate an existing RTA; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

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): India is actively negotiating Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs)/Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the following countries/regions:

Sl.	Countries/Regions	Name of the Agreement	
1	UAE	India-UAE CEPA	
2	Australia	India - Australia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)	
3	Canada	India – Canada Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement	
4	Israel	India – Israel Free Trade Agreement (FTA)	
5	United Kingdom	India-UK Enhanced Trade Partnership (ETP)	
6	Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia	India-Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) Free Trade Agreement (FTA)	

Sl.	Countries/Regions	Name of the Agreement	
7	European Union India - EU Broad Based Trade and I		
		Agreement (BTIA)	
8	South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho,	India - SACU PTA	
	Swaziland and Namibia		

(b), (c) & (d): India has signed 11 RTAs/FTAs with various countries/regions namely, Japan, South Korea, Mauritius, countries of ASEAN region and countries of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation. India's merchandise exports to these countries/regions have registered a growth of 20.75% in the last five years. As regards India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA), as this has been implemented w.e.f. 01-04-2021, it is too early to calculate quantifiable benefits. The following table gives country/region wise merchandise export details:

RTA partner countries/Region wise India's exports							
Values							
India RTA partner Countries/region	Names of RTAs	Export in FY 2016	Export in FY 2021				
ASEAN	India-ASEAN FTA	25.13	31.49				
	India-Singapore CECA India-Malaysia CECA						
	India-Thailand FTA - Early Harvest Scheme (EHS)						
Japan	India-Japan CEPA	4.66	4.43				
South Korea	India-South Korea CEPA	3.52	4.68				
SAFTA	Agreement on SAFTA India-Sri Lanka FTA India-Nepal Treaty of Trade India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit	18.60	22.08				
Mauritius	India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) eneral of Commercial Intelligence and Stati.	quantifiable this RTA, implemented 10.04.2021.	as it was only w.e.f.				

As per the FDI data maintained by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), the cumulative investment received from the above countries/regions in the last 5 years (between October 2016 and September 2021) is to the tune of US\$ 89.46 Billion. However, it is not possible to ascertain if investment from a country has taken place due to signing of an RTA or any other reason(s).

(e) & (f): Review of RTAs/FTAs with South Korea, ASEAN and Singapore is under consideration.
