

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MICRO SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3253
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2025

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SCHEME

3253. DR. PRASHANT YADAORAO PADOLE:
MS. S JOTHIMANI:
DR. DHARAMVIRA GANDHI:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to enhance the global competitiveness of MSMEs;
- (b) the progress made under the International Cooperation Scheme;
- (c) the total financial assistance provided under export promotion schemes for MSMEs during the last year;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to increase MSMEs contribution to GDP;
- (e) the challenges faced by MSMEs in accessing global markets; and
- (f) the manner in which the Government plans to address them?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a): Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) has developed a support system towards export promotion by setting up 65 Export Facilitation Centres (EFCs) in its field offices namely, MSME Development and Facilitation Offices, MSME Technology Centres and MSME Testing Centres. These EFCs handhold the MSMEs by providing MSMEs with support in documentation, market access, financing, technology adoption and training.

Other initiatives for helping MSMEs to grow their business globally include Ministry of Commerce and Industry's Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) which facilitates participation of Indian Exporters in exhibitions, buyer seller meets, fairs etc. Initiatives like Districts as Export hubs identify export potential, address bottlenecks and supports local exporters / manufacturers. The Trade Connect e Platform is an information and intermediation platform on international trade, which provides comprehensive services for both new and existing exporters.

(b): Under the International Cooperation (IC) Scheme of Ministry of MSME, financial assistance is provided on reimbursement basis to the eligible Central / State Government organizations and Industry Associations to facilitate participation of MSMEs in international exhibitions and fairs held abroad; and for organizing international conference in India with the aim of knowledge sharing, good practices etc. Under the Capacity Building of First Time Exporters (CBFTE) component of IC Scheme, assistance on reimbursement basis is provided to new Micro & Small Enterprises (MSE) exporters for Registration-cum-Membership Certification (RCMC) with EPCs, Export Insurance Premium and testing & quality certification for products.

(c): During the Financial year 2023-24, 545 MSMEs were assisted at a cost of Rs. 19.22 crore under International Co-operation Scheme of Ministry of MSME.

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(d): Government has taken a number of initiatives to support the MSMEs, some of which are:

- (i) New criteria for classification of MSMEs with higher threshold, based on Investment and Turnover to widen the ambit of the MSME sector, notified on 26.06.2020.
- (i) No global tenders for procurement up to Rs. 200 crore
- (ii) “Udyam Registration” for MSMEs, for ease of doing Business, launched on 01.07.2020.
- (iii) Inclusion of Retail and Wholesale traders as MSMEs w.e.f. 02.07.2021 for credit purpose.
- (iv) Non-tax benefits extended for 3 years in case of an upward change in status of MSMEs.
- (v) Launch of Udyam Assist Platform (UAP) to bring the Informal Micro Enterprises (IMEs) under the formal ambit for availing the benefit under Priority Sector Lending (PSL).
- (vi) Launch of SAMADHAAN Portal for filing of grievances and monitoring of outstanding dues to the Micro and Small Enterprises from the buyers of goods and services.
- (vii) Launch of an online Portal "Champions" in June, 2020 to cover many aspects of e-governance including redressing grievances and handholding of MSMEs.

(e) and (f): To support the MSMEs in accessing global market, the Government has taken following measures:

- (i) Ministry of MSME has set up a dedicated support system for export promotion by setting up 65 Export Facilitation Centres (EFCs). These EFCs support MSMEs by disseminating information on various Schemes and supports available for the MSMEs for enhancing their assisting exports, in linking them with financial institutions such as NBFCs, new fintech start-ups etc, to avail credit at competitive rates etc.
- (ii) “MSME Champions” Scheme with three sub schemes, MSME-Sustainable (ZED) Certification Scheme, MSME-Competitive (LEAN) Scheme and MSME-Innovative Scheme (Incubation, Design& IPR) is a holistic approach to unify, synergize and converge with various Schemes and interventions to enable MSMEs to become globally competitive.
- (iii) Raising and Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) Scheme aims to provide support to Micro, Small and Medium enterprises through increased access to technological upgradation, market and credit by strengthening of Central and State agencies.
- (iv) Other initiatives for helping MSMEs to grow their business globally include Ministry of Commerce and Industry’s schemes like the Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) and Market Access Initiative (MAI). Under MAI Scheme financial assistance is provided to Export Promotion Councils, State Bodies, Commodities’ Boards etc for facilitating participation of Indian exporters including MSMEs in exhibitions/fairs abroad for showcasing their products and establishing business contacts with foreign buyers. The Trade Connect e-Platform is an information and intermediation platform on international trade, which provides comprehensive services for both new and existing exporters.
