

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2580
ANSWERED ON 16/12/2025

EXPORT PERFORMANCE

2580. DR. D. PURANDESWARI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has identified the key factors driving the highest-ever quarterly export performance recorded in the first and second quarters of FY26, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether specific sectors have played a major role in sustaining export growth during this period, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government anticipates continued strong export performance for the remaining quarters of FY26, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether measures are being undertaken to maintain India's export momentum amid prevailing global economic uncertainties, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether steps are being planned to enhance the long-term competitiveness of Indian exporters, particularly in high-growth global markets, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) and (b) India achieved a significant milestone in the first half (H1) of FY 2025–26. Total exports comprising both merchandise and services reached US\$ 418.6 billion during April–September 2025 marking a 5.8% growth over the same period last year and setting a new all-time high for H1 exports. Notably, both Q1 (April–June 2025) and Q2 (July–September 2025) recorded their highest-ever export levels for their respective quarters, despite persisting global uncertainties.

India's overall cumulative export performance remains robust. Total exports for April–October 2025 rose by 4.1% year-on-year to US\$488.1 billion. Merchandise exports increased by 0.5%, reaching US\$253.9 billion, while services exports grew by 8.2% to US\$234.2 billion during the same period.

Moreover, several major sectors are delivering strong expansions despite global uncertainties. Electronic goods remained the standout performer, rising sharply by 37.8%.

Agriculture-related labour-intensive categories also posted healthy gains – Cashew (28.3%), other cereals (25.5%), meat, dairy & poultry products (24.0%), tea (15.2%), coffee (12.3%), fruits & vegetables (6.2%), rice (5.5%), and Cereal preparations (3.9%). Marine products export grew by 16.2%, mineral exports including mica and other ores, grew by 11.9%, while drugs and pharmaceuticals expanded by 4.7%. Engineering goods, India's largest export segment, registered steady growth of 1.7%. At the same time, a few key categories such as petroleum, textiles, plastics etc. experienced declines reflecting external market conditions.

(c) and (d) Despite persisting global uncertainties India's export performance remains robust. The Government works through a comprehensive multi-pronged strategy through Trade relief measures of RBI, Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters, enhancement of domestic demand through next generation GST reforms, Export Promotion measures such as the new Export Promotion Mission which provide support and assistance to our exporters, pursuing FTAs with new countries and better utilization of existing FTA. It is expected that these measures will also enhance diversification and resilience in India's trade relationships.

(e) Several steps have been taken by the Government to boost exports and strengthening domestic manufacturing keeping in view India's increased integration in the global value chain. Some of the measures induces providing export incentives, easing trade processes through digital platforms, and negotiating free trade agreements (FTAs) with various countries and blocs to enhance market access for Indian products. Regular monitoring of export performance with Commercial Missions abroad, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards/ Authorities and Industry Associations is being done and corrective measures are being taken from time to time. Further, New Foreign Trade Policy 2023 lays down a blue print to integrate India with the global market and make it a reliable and trusted trade partner. It is expected further to improve India's trade performance and competitiveness.

The Department of Commerce has been regularly monitoring and sensitizing line Ministries/Departments and other stakeholders from time to time and at various levels on the issue of imports with an objective to reduce dependence on import on the following broad strategy: (i) Addressing domestic supply rigidities and looking at domestic production opportunities /enhancement of capacity; (ii) Timely use of trade remedy options; (iii) Quality Controls; (iv) Enforcing rules of origin; (v) Tariff measures /inverted duty correction; and vi) Import items monitoring.

The Government has approved the Scheme for Export Promotion Mission (EPM) for the period FY 2025–26 to FY 2030–31, aimed at strengthening India's export competitiveness—particularly for MSMEs. The EPM shall operate through two integrated sub-schemes:

- NIRYAT PROSAHAN, focused on improving access to trade finance through instruments such as interest subvention, export factoring, collateral guarantees for export credit, credit for e-commerce exporters, and credit enhancement support; and
- NIRYAT DISHA, focused on other trade enablers such as export quality and compliance support, international branding and packaging, market access initiatives, export logistics & warehousing, and trade intelligence.

EPM is anchored in a collaborative framework involving the Department of Commerce, Ministry of MSME, Ministry of Finance, and other key stakeholders including Financial

Institutions, Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards, industry associations, and state governments.

Credit Guarantee Scheme for Exporters has also been approved to provide 100% credit guarantee coverage by National Credit Guarantee Trustee Company Limited (NCGTC) to Member Lending Institutions (MLIs) for extending additional collateral free credit facilities up to Rs.20,000 crore to eligible exporters, including MSMEs. The Scheme is expected to enhance the global competitiveness of Indian exporters and support diversification into new and emerging markets. Enabling collateral-free credit access will strengthen liquidity, ensure smooth business operations, and reinforce India's progress towards achieving the USD 1 trillion export target.

Trade Relief Measures:- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has also initiated trade relief measures for eligible affected exporters including provision for debt repayment moratorium and extension of tenor for export credit.

Leveraging Free Trade Agreements:- The Government aims for promotion of Export Diversification and has signed 15 Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) and 6 Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs) with its trading partners. Government is working with all stakeholders to enable our exporters to better utilize the benefits of India's FTAs with major markets such as Japan, Korea, UAE etc. and effectively utilize the opportunities that have been created with the recent concluded FTAs such as with the EFTA countries and the UK. The Government is also engaged in negotiations for early conclusion of mutually beneficial FTAs with the EU, Peru, Chile, New Zealand, Oman etc.

Diversification Measures:- Through consistent efforts, the number of listed fishery establishments for export to the EU and Russia have increased recently. As per data from the Department of Fisheries, through the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, projects with a total outlay of Rs. 21274.13 crore have been approved for the development of fisheries and aquaculture in the country. This has contributed to India's exports in this sector more than doubling from Rs 30,213 crore in 2013-14 to Rs 62,408 crore in 2024-25, with the share of value added products rising from 2% to 11%.
