

'Make in India' initiative on 29th December 2014 in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi to prepare Action Plans for one year and three years for the identified sectors. Ministries/ Departments concerned have updated their action plans to identify quantifiable and measurable milestones in respect of each activity of their Action Plan. The progress on 'Make in India' Action Plans is being monitored.

(c) The 'Make in India' programme has received a very positive response. FDI inflow has increased 29% during the period October 2014 to December 2015 (15 months after 'Make in India') compared to the 15 months period prior to the launch of 'Make in India'. FDI equity inflow has increased 36%. There is an improvement in business environment with the initiatives taken to improve Ease of Doing Business under the 'Make in India' programme. This has resulted in the UNCTAD World Investment Report (WIR) 2015, in its analysis of the global trends in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows, ranking India as the third top prospective host economies for 2015-2017. Frost and Sullivan has ranked India as number 1 amongst 100 countries on the growth, innovation and leadership index. In November 2015, a global consultancy firm namely Ernst and Young (EY) India conducted the India Attractiveness Survey 2015, where they had taken responses of 505 investors on three most attractive markets for investment. On the basis of response received from these investors and data provided by FDI Markets (a service of The Financial Times Limited), India ranked number one FDI destination in the world during the 1st half of 2015.

Export target

2108. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the export target of the country fixed for the year 2014-15 *vis-a-vis* actual export during the year;

(b) the reasons for continuous expansion of trade deficit for the last several years;

(c) whether Government has taken any aggressive marketing initiative to check the trend of declining exports and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the fresh steps taken by Government to boost country's export and achieve the export targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) the export target for the country fixed for the year 2014-15 *vis-a-vis* actual exports during the year are as under:

(Value in US \$ Billion)

Exports target*	Actual exports**
340	310.34

*Source: DoC

**Source: DGCI&S

(b) Merchandise Trade deficit for the years 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are as under:

(Value in US \$ Billion)

Year	Trade Deficit
2012-13	-190.34
2013-14	-135.8
2014-15	-137.69

The Merchandise Trade deficit data does not indicate any steady increase in value of the trade deficit in the recent period.

(c) and (d) Details of some of the key steps taken for promoting exports are as follows:-

- (i) The New Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) was announced on 1st April, 2015 with a focus on supporting both manufacturing and services exports and improving the 'Ease of Doing Business'. The FTP introduced two new schemes, namely, 'Merchandise Exports from India Scheme' (MEIS) for incentivising export of specified goods to specified markets and 'Service Exports from India Scheme' (SEIS) for promoting export of notified services from India, by consolidating earlier schemes.
- (ii) E-Commerce exports of handloom products, books/periodicals, leather footwear, toys and customized fashion garments through courier or foreign post offices were also included for benefit under MEIS. In order to give a boost to exports from SEZs, benefits of both MEIS and SEIS were extended to units located in SEZs.
- (iii) In light of the major challenges being faced by Indian exporters in the backdrop of the global economic slowdown, the envisaged revenue outgo under MEIS was increased from ₹ 18000 crore to ₹ 21000 crore in October 2015 with accompanying enhancement in benefits on certain products and inclusion of certain additional items. As per DGCI&S data, while merchandise exports during the period April to December 2015 have declined by about 19% as

a whole, items covered under MEIS have shown a decline of only about 9% during this period in the face of a severe global economic slowdown. This demonstrates a likely positive impact of this intervention in promoting our exports.

- (iv) By way of trade facilitation and enhancing the ease of doing business Government reduced the number of mandatory documents required for exports and imports to three each, which is comparable with international benchmarks. The trade community can file applications online for various trade related schemes. Online payment of application fees through Credit/Debit Cards and electronic funds transfer from 53 Banks has been put in place.
- (v) Government has infused additional Corpus (Capital) to the tune of ₹ 375 crore into the National Export Insurance Account (NEIA), raising the corpus to over ₹ 2100 crore, and strengthening the capacity to augment Project exports from the country. The equity capital of ECGC Ltd. has also been raised by ₹ 50 crore to ₹ 1300 crore enabling higher underwriting capacity to support exporters to expand their business and support banks for adequate lending to exporters.
- (vi) Further, the Government continues to provide the facility of access to duty free raw materials and capital goods for exports through schemes like Advance Authorisation, Duty Free Import Authorisation (DFIA), Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) and Drawback/refund of Duties.

Share of India's spices in world market

2109. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the share of India's spices in the world market, in terms of quantity and rupee value, in the last three years;
- (b) the efforts made by Government and Spice Board of India to increase export of quality spices;
- (c) the details of lab test facilities available in the country at present to check pesticide residuals and microbiological contamination in spices with details; and
- (d) the details of steps taken for 'Target 2020: Clean, Safe and Sustainable Supply Chain' of spices in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) India is the largest producer,