

- (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) 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 Authorization (DFIA), Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) and drawback/refund of duties.

#### **Decline in Exports**

1825. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that exports have declined during the last two years, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the month-wise and sector-wise details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by Government to boost exports and to increase foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) There has been a decline in value of merchandise exports of India during last two years, FY 2014-15 and 2015-16. However, in the month of June 2016 there has been an increase of 1.27% in India's exports in dollar terms. The key reasons for the decline in the last two years, FY 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as follows:

- (i) Slowdown in developed and emerging economies barring moderate but uncertain recovery in the US Economy. The significant slowdown includes the Chinese Economy,
- (ii) Sharp Fall in Crude and petroleum product prices-Brent crude declining from 66.78 USD in April 2015 to 35.97 USD in February 2016. Fall in other commodity prices-Gold prices fell by 10.4%; high Grade Copper by about 26% in last one year,

- (iii) Currency Fluctuations -depreciations of Euro, Rouble, Brazilian Real, Yuan and
- (iv) Negative aggregate import growth in our key export destinations in the recent period.
- (b) (i) Month-wise details of merchandise exports of India for 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as follows:

(Values in Billion USD)

Months	2013-14	2014-15	% change 2014-15 over 2013-14	2015-16*	% change 2015-16 over 2014-15
April	24.52	26.03	6.17%	22.05	-15.28%
May	24.92	28.0	12.35%	22.35	-20.18%
June	24.0	25.9	7.93%	22.29	-13.95%
July	25.84	25.79	-0.18%	23.14	-10.30%
August	26.34	26.8	1.76%	21.27	-20.66%
September	28.14	28.87	2.59%	21.84	-24.33%
October	27.48	25.89	-5.78%	21.35	-17.53%
November	24.2	26.49	9.45%	20.01	-24.43%
December	26.39	26.15	-0.89%	22.3	-14.75%
January	26.89	24.39	-9.28%	21.08	-13.58%
February	25.35	21.98	-13.28%	20.74	-5.66%
March	30.34	24.03	-20.79%	22.72	-5.46%
Apr-March	314.41	310.34	-1.29%	261.14	-15.85%

Source: DGCIS, \* Figures as per Quick Estimates.

- (ii) Sector-wise details for 2014-15 and 2015-16 are as follows:

(Values in Million USD)

Major Sector	2013-14	2014-15	% change 2014-15 over 2013-14	2015-16*	% change 2015-16 over 2014-15
1	2	3	4	5	6
Carpet	1178.34	1360.77	15.48%	1440.2	5.84%
Cashew	842.32	909.26	7.95%	768.48	-15.48%

1	2	3	4	5	6
Ceramic Products and Glassware	1292.16	164438	27.26%	1707.97	3.87%
Cereal Preparations and Miscellaneous Processed Item	1149.49	1257.7	9.41%	1312.51	4.36%
Coffee	798.83	814.02	1.90%	783.82	-3.71%
Cotton Yarn/Fabs./Madeups, Handloom Products etc.	11015.93	10774.55	-2.19%	10104.14	-6.22%
Drugs and Pharmaceuticals	14949.53	15431.5	3.22%	16904.42	9.54%
Electronic Goods	7842.99	6260.73	-20.17%	5939.81	-5.13%
Engineering Goods	63902.69	73074.87	14.35%	60601.1	-17.07%
Fruits and Vegetables	2255.32	2153.51	-4.51%	2160.59	0.33%
Gems and Jewellery	41388.34	41266.07	-0.30%	39440.91	-4.42%
Handicrafts Excl- Hand Made Carpet	1499.28	1378.04	-8.09%	1635.44	18.68%
Iron Ore	1557.63	526.5	-66.20%	183.97	-65.06%
Jute Mfg. Including Floor Covering	381.58	347.48	-8.94%	559.89	61.13%
Leather and Leather Manufactures	5572.77	6029.96	8.20%	5406.52	-10.34%
Man-Made yarn/Fabs./Madeups etc.	5183.66	5275.03	1.76%	4651.39	-11.82%
Marine Products	5016.63	5510.49	9.84%	4762.46	-13.57%
Meat, Dairy and Poultry Products	5292.88	5385	1.74%	4574.77	-15.05%
Mica Coal and Other Ores, Minerals Including Process	4022.55	3903.5	-2.96%	3614.98	-7.39%
Oil Meals	2796.44	1324.17	-52.65%	543.68	-58.94%
Oil Seeds	1291.71	1735.38	34.35%	1242.01	-28.43%
Organic and Inorganic Chemicals	14209.66	14425.41	1.52%	13692.97	-5.08%
Other Cereals	1204.16	869.11	-27.82%	246.72	-71.61%

1	2	3	4	5	6
Petroleum Products	63179.37	56794.15	-10.11%	30477.33	-46.34%
Plastic and Linoleum	6147.81	5746.79	-6.52%	5753.46	0.12%
Rice	7790.05	7853.12	0.81%	5792.53	-26-24%
RMG of All Textiles	14990.49	16833.32	12.29%	16963.46	0.77%
Spices	2497.3	2430.35	-2.68%	2504.85	3.07%
Tea	798.79	681.79	-14.65%	720	5.60%
Tobacco	1011.39	958.62	-5.22%	981.45	2.38%
Others	23355.63	17396.42	-25.52%	16559.41	-4.81%

Source: DGCI&S, \*Sector-wise data as on 31.7.2016

(c) Some of the key actions taken by Government to boost exports and to increase foreign exchange 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'.
- (ii) In the 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. On 04.05.2016., the Government has extended the market coverage to all countries in respect of 2787 lines. Hence Landing Certificates shall not be required under MEIS w.e.f 04.05.2016. This step has been taken as part of 'Ease of Doing Business' and reduction of Transaction Cost of exporters. Accordingly, revenue foregone under the scheme has been revised from ₹ 21000 crore per annum to ₹22,000 crore per annum.
- (iii) The Government is implementing the Niryat Bandhu Scheme with an objective to reach out to the new and potential exporters including exporters from Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and mentor them through orientation programmes, counselling sessions, individual facilitation, etc., on various aspects of foreign trade for being able to get into international trade and boost exports from India.

- (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) 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 Authorization (DFIA), Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) and drawback/refund of duties.

#### Import of pulses and edible oil

†1826. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of import of pulses and oil (edible oil) in the last three years and quantity of pulses planned to be imported from the African countries in the next two years;
- (b) the amount paid for import of oil and pulses during the said period;
- (c) whether there is any plan towards reduction of import of pulses and oil; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) The details of import of pulses and edible oil (vegetable oil) in the last three years are as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Pulses		Edible oil (vegetable Oil)	
		Qty (lakh MT)	Val. (Million US\$)	Qty. (lakh MT)	Val. (Million US\$)
1.	2013-14	36.44	2119.32	104.67	9389.74
2.	2014-15	45.85	2786.10	127.32	10621.48
3.	2015-16	57.97	3902.22	156.39	10485.18

Figures for 2015-16 are provisional.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.