

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS****Decline in export of brassware**

1. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a fall in exports and imports in the last three years, if so, the reasons therefor along with the schemes of Government to promote exports and imports in the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the export of brassware is following a downward slope, the details of brass export in the last three years along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the steps taken by Government to help India's dying brass industry and also future promotional planning, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Export growth was positive during 2013-14 over previous year but declined subsequently. The key reasons for the decline are as follows:

- (i) Slowdown in developed and emerging economies.
- (ii) Sharp fall in crude and petroleum product prices.

The Schemes of Government for promotion of exports include Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS), Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS), Duty Drawback Scheme, Advance Authorisation Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, Interest Equalisation Scheme.

(b) Export of brassware increased in 2014-15 over 2013-14; however it declined in 2015-16 as compared to brassware exports in 2014-15. The following are the details:

Year	Value (Millions US\$)	Growth (%)
2013-14	407.12	-
2014-15	469.34	15.28
2015-16	363.34	-22.58

The key reasons for the decline of brassware exports include recessionary trends in Europe.

(c) Following are some of the important steps taken by the Government to make Indian brass industry more export oriented and competitive:

- (i) MEIS aims to incentivize export of merchandise including export products of brass, which are produced/manufactured in India.
- (ii) Moradabad, a major brassware centre has been declared as Mega-cluster to boost brassware industry.

**FDI violations by e-commerce companies**

2. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that there are FDI violations by e-commerce companies in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Enforcement Directorate has also lodged a complaint in this regard before the Ministry;

(c) if so, the details of complaints and what action Ministry has taken so far in this regard;

(d) whether any complaints have been received from the general public on e-commerce companies; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) This Ministry formulates Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy across the sectors including e-commerce. The FDI policy as contained in 'Consolidated FDI Policy Circular 2016' is notified under Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999 and any violation of FDI regulations is covered by the penal provisions of the FEMA, 1999. Reserve Bank of India administers the FEMA and Directorate of Enforcement under the Ministry of Finance is the authority for the enforcement of FEMA.

(b) No such complaint has been received in this Ministry from Enforcement Directorate.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) Complaints received from general public/consumers on e-commerce companies are forwarded to Department of Consumer Affairs for redressal of their grievances.