Widening of trade deficit

2291. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India's trade deficit widened in May, 2019 to US \$15.36 billion, with imports growing faster than exports during the said period;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that electronics and chemical sectors have shown good export growth during May, 2019; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and

(b) The details of India's merchandise exports, imports and trade deficit in May, 2018 and May, 2019 are as follows:-

Value (in Billion USD)

Category	May-18	May-19	% Growth May-2019 over May-2018	
Export	28.94	29.99	3.63	
Import	43.92	45.35	3.27	
Trade Deficit	14.97	-15.36	2.59	

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata Trade deficit marginally widened to US\$ 15.36 billion in May, 2019 from US\$ 14.97 billion in May, 2018, with exports growing faster than imports. Exports increased to US\$ 29.99 billion in May, 2019 from US\$ 28.94 billion in May, 2018, registering a positive growth of 3.63% and Import increased to US\$ 45.35 billion in May, 2019 from US\$ 43.92 billion in May, 2018, registering a positive growth of 3.27%.

(c) and (d) The details of India's exports of Electronic Goods and Organic and Inorganic Chemical sectors in May, 2018 and May, 2019 are as follows:-

(Value in US\$ Million)

S1.1	No. Sector	May, 2018	May, 2019	% Change
1.	Electronic Goods	603.59	911.23	50.97
2.	Organic and Inorganic Chemical	1723.77	2079.56	20.64

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

Exports of Electronic Goods and Organic and Inorganic Chemicals have shown high growth in May, 2019 over May, 2018.

Export of tea

2292. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the major countries where tea is exported and foreign exchange earned by the tea industry in the last three years;
- (b) whether export of tea to Iran is going to affect us in view of the US economic sanctions, if so, the details thereof; and