and suggest ways to attract more investment in greenfield projects. Project Development Cells (PDCs) are being set up in Ministries/Departments to fasttrack investments with coordination between Central Government Ministries and State Governments and thereby grow the pipeline of investment projects in India. The entire focus of the Government is to create an investment-friendly and business conducive ecosystem to drive investment growth in India. Several steps like Production Investment Schemes, GIS mapping of available land banks, issuance of Quality Control Orders to cut down cheap imports and many such measures have been put into place to attract further investment into the country.

## Increase in imports of essential commodities

- 705. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) the percentage increase in imports of essential commodities for the months of March-August, 2020;
- (b) the percentage decline in exports from India for the months of March-August, 2020; and
- (c) the percentage increase in overall imports for the months of March-August, 2020?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):
(a) to (c) The value of India's merchandise exports and imports and percentage change in them during the period March-August, 2020 over the period March-August, 2019 are given below:—

(Value in US\$ Billion)

Period	Value of Export	Value of Import
March-August, 2019	165.86	254.11
March-August, 2020	119.07	149.54
% Change	-28.21	-41.15

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata (Figures for the year 2020 are provisional)

The details of percentage change in imports of essential commodities during the period March-July, 2020 over the period March-July, 2019 are as follows:—

(Value in US\$ million)

Sl. No	o. Commodity Groups	March-July,	March-July,	% Change
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Petroleum: Crude	45,389.48	21,415.17	-52.82
2.	Petroleum Products	11,503.03	8,279.30	-28.03
3.	Vegetable Oils	4,032.51	3,705.25	-8.12
4.	Fertilizers Manufactured	2,759.12	2,174.05	-21.20
5.	Bulk Drugs, Drug Intermediates	1,521.74	1,483.31	-2.53
6.	Fresh Fruits	775.59	612.29	-21.06
7.	Cosmetics And Toiletries	587.35	495.70	-15.60
8.	Pulses	484.44	412.99	-14.75
9.	Fertilizers Crude	281.50	283.87	0.84
10.	Surgicals	308.39	239.97	-22.19
11.	Other Oil Seeds	72.00	232.22	222.55
12.	Cotton Raw Including Waste	572.30	169.38	-70.40
13.	Miscellaneous Processed Items	177.43	113.95	-35.78
14.	Cotton Fabrics, Made ups Etc.	223.15	113.50	-49.14
15.	RMG Cotton Incl Accessories	218.87	91.74	-58.08
16.	Sesame Seeds	109.22	83.19	-23.83
17.	Cereal Preparations	50.37	52.48	4.18
18.	Other Cereals	38.96	51.45	32.06
19.	Fruits/Vegetable Seeds	51.97	50.47	-2.89
20.	Coffee	49.24	49.57	0.67

152	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]		Unstar	Unstarred Questions	
1	2	3	4	5	
21.	Processed Fruits And Juice	es 45.09	26.94	-40.25	
22.	Other Jute Manufactures	34.72	25.04	-27.89	
23.	Tea	32.28	24.24	-24.90	
24.	Jute Yarn	20.51	13.07	-36.25	
25.	Jute Hessian	15.01	11.73	-21.83	
26.	Processed Vegetables	13.24	7.60	-42.60	
27.	Cotton Yarn	7.99	5.17	-35.38	
28.	Jute, Raw	8.29	3.47	-58.15	
29.	Niger Seeds	2.67	2.49	-6.54	
30.	Rice (Other than Basmati)	1.60	0.99	-38.47	
31.	Fresh Vegetables	0.97	0.63	-34.76	
32.	Floor Covering of Jute	0.32	0.61	86.66	
33.	Milled Products	1.00	0.49	-50.87	
34.	Wheat	0.21	0.01	-95.50	
	Total Import of above	69390.55	40232.35	-42.02	

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata (Figures for the year 2020 are provisional).

## Bilateral trade agreements signed with other countries

706. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of bilateral trade agreements that have been signed with other countries during the last three years to increase India's exports of goods and services/ India's share in global trade, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of quantum and value of trade under each bilateral trade agreement during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) India has not signed any new bilateral trade agreement during the last three years.