

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1323
ANSWERED ON 06/12/2024

INDIA'S EXPORT GROWTH

1323. SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be please to state:

- (a) factors contributing to the remarkable 7.28 per cent growth in cumulative exports during April-October 2024, and the manner in which the performance reflects the resilience of India's economy;
- (b) strategic initiatives Government has implemented to enhance the competitiveness of Indian exports, particularly in the face of global economic headwinds; and
- (c) the manner in which the estimated growth in exports align with Government's vision for India's economic transformation, and details of the key sectors driving this growth?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) Despite persisting global challenges, India's exports demonstrated remarkable resilience with a 7.33 percent growth in exports (merchandise and services) during April-October 2024. Service exports, in particular, showed strong performance, growing by 12.66 percent to reach USD 216.27 billion in April-October 2024, compared to USD 191.97 billion in the same period in 2023. This growth underscores the strength and adaptability of India's economy, which continues to be the fastest-growing major economy. While the IMF (October 2024) has projected global growth at 3.2 percent for both 2024 and 2025, India's growth projections stand at 7.0 percent for 2024 and 6.5 percent for 2025, highlighting its economic resilience despite global headwinds.

(b) The Government has implemented various strategic initiatives to boost the competitiveness of its exports amid global challenges. Long-term measures, such as the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes, offer financial incentives to manufacturers in sectors like electronics, pharmaceuticals, and textiles, promoting both domestic production and exports. Government keeps a close watch on the quality of imports and takes measures periodically to address it. The compliance to Indian Standards is mandated through issuance of QCOs. The Districts as Export Hubs is aimed at targeting export promotion, manufacturing and employment generation at the grass-roots level, making the states and districts meaningful stakeholders and active participants in making India an export

powerhouse. Infrastructure improvements through initiatives like Gati Shakti, along with upgrades to ports, airports, and railways, are streamlining supply chains and reducing logistics costs. India is also expanding its global trade footprint by negotiating Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), having concluded 14 FTAs and 6 Preferential Trade Agreements (PTAs). Digital platforms, such as Trade E-Connect, National Single Window System and the Self-Certified e-BRC system, enhance ease of doing business by simplifying regulatory processes and reduce transaction costs, while the E-Commerce Export Hub connects small and medium enterprises to global markets. Together, these efforts, coupled with ongoing policy reforms, aim to position India as a significant player in international trade.

(c) India's trade strategy is closely aligned with vision for Viksit Bharat by 2047. Trade growth is increasingly playing a crucial role in India's economic transformation. Notably, services trade has become a larger part of global trade, with India's services exports growing faster than the global average. The share of services in India's total exports has increased from around 32.6 percent in 2013-14 to 43.8 percent in 2023-24. Key sectors driving merchandise export growth (April to October 2024) include engineering goods, electronic goods, drugs and pharmaceuticals, organic and inorganic chemicals, and ready-made garments of all textiles.
