

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 229**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**FREIGHT SMART CITIES**

\*229. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:  
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (RAJU BHAIYA):

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has planned to develop 'Freight Smart Cities' to improve the efficiency of urban freight and create an opportunity for reduction in the logistics costs and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has also launched a website on 'Freight Smart Cities' to improve urban freight and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has urged the State Governments to identify ten cities, to begin with, to be developed as 'Freight Smart Cities' and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री ( श्री पीयूष गोयल )

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to ( d) OF LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 229 FOR ANSWER ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021  
REGARDING “FREIGHT SMART CITIES”.**

- (a) The Government is presently holding stakeholder consultations with State Governments, Central Ministries, Technical institutions, etc. to explore the development of freight smart cities in the country.
- (b) Yes Sir. The website provides information on concepts, resources and guidelines.
- (c) State Governments have been requested to identify cities for development as Freight Smart Cities. One of the inputs during stakeholder consultations has been to start with a list of 10 such cities, which has not yet been finalised.
- (d) Independent measures to improve urban freight are regularly undertaken by State and Central Governments. In order to develop a cohesive and planned approach, the Government has held multiple stakeholder interactions with States, technical institutes, Central Ministries towards improving city logistics while making the cities safer and more liveable. A guideline document on *“Enhancing Urban Freight Systems”* which provides 14 key suggested measures for early implementation, has been shared with states on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs had launched a consultation paper on Efficient Urban Freight in February, 2019, comprising three documents viz. Policy Framework, Policy Workbook and Evaluation Metrics.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 239**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**IIFT CAMPUS AT SILCHAR**

\*239. DR. RAJDEEP ROY:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री ) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government plans to start a campus of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) at Silchar considering the fact that Northeast shares 98% of its borders with foreign countries; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री ( श्री पीयूष गोयल )

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 239 FOR ANSWER ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**  
**REGARDING “ IIFT CAMPUS AT SILCHAR ”.**

**(a) & (b) :** There is no proposal of the Government of India to start a campus of Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) at Silchar as of now. The needs of the North-East Region are being catered to by the Kolkata Campus of IIFT.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2577**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**REVAMPING OF RUBBER CULTIVATION**

2577. SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to push fresh plans to revamp rubber cultivation within Assam as an important component of the Atmanirbhar scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the funds targets estimated for revamping of rubber cultivation; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be initiated?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
**(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a): Rubber Board is implementing the scheme “Sustainable and Inclusive Development of Natural Rubber Sector” for development of the natural rubber sector in the country including Assam. The main focus of the scheme is to increase domestic rubber production by bringing more area under rubber cultivation. The scheme also aims at bridging the prevalent gap between production & consumption of Natural Rubber, reducing the import of Natural Rubber and make India self-sufficient (Atmanirbhar) to meet the demand of Natural Rubber in the country.

(b): The main components of the scheme include providing financial and technical assistance to small growers for both new planting and replanting of rubber trees, improving productivity & quality of natural rubber produced, distribution of quality planting materials, support to good agricultural practices, measures for disease prevention, promoting grower’s forum such as Rubber Producers Societies (RPS); setting up Group processing Centres (GPCs), assistance for processing, training of tappers, creation of self-help groups and other welfare measures for plantation workers etc.

(c) & (d): During the Medium Term Framework (2017-18 to 2019-20) the fund released to the Board for implementing the scheme was Rs.568.44 crore. Subsequently the scheme has been extended for the benefit of the sector. Rs.187.69 crore was released for the financial year 2020-21. In the financial year 2021-22, Rs.190 crore has been allocated for implementation of the scheme. During the Medium Term Framework period (2017-18 onwards) total area of 35,700 hectare has been brought under rubber plantation. The planting target for 2021-22 is 13,500 hectare.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2605**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**FREE IMPORT OF PULSES**

2605. SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR:  
DR. AMAR SINGH:  
SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:  
SHRI BENNY BEHANAN:  
SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the detrimental impact leading to lower prices for local farmers as a result of the announcement of free import of pulses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the impact of falling prices of pulses on the sowing quantity by farmers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has assessed the impact on traders who already bought grains at higher prices than MSP and stocked them; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) & (b) To enhance the domestic availability and smoothen the inflow of pulses import, changes have been made in import policy by shifting Tur, Urad and Moong from restricted category to free category for a limited period from 15th May 2021 to 31st October 2021. The Minimum Support Price (MSP) of pulses like Tur, Moong and Urad for the season 2021-22 has been fixed at Rs 6300, Rs. 7275 and Rs. 6300 per quintal respectively. The wholesale price of Gram, Tur, Urad and Moong etc. saw fluctuations during the past two months, but on the whole, the prices of pulses have been prevailing higher than MSP during the period.

(c) & (d) There is no adverse impact on sowing of these pulses. The estimated area covered under sowing in 2019-20 was 13646.32 thousand hectares while it was 13755.61 thousand hectares in 2020-21.

(e) & (f) Import of pulses is allowed and the import quantity is determined taking into consideration overall availability and price situation to protect farmers' and consumers' interest. No such assessment of the said impact has been done.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2658**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS**

2658. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is in process of negotiating Free Trade Agreements (FTA) or any other kind of trade agreement with the EU;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether dairy and other fresh produce are part of the negotiations;
- (d) if so, the list of commodities excluded from the negotiations;
- (e) whether there are any plans to revisit the existing regional trade agreements which are not in India's economic interests;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the details and the list of regional trade agreements which are not in the economic interests of India?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) to (d): Yes, Sir. India and EU have agreed to resume the negotiations for a balanced, ambitious, comprehensive and mutually beneficial trade agreement. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations, including those on specific issues, are to be held considering the interest of either side. The commodities included / excluded in the FTA negotiations are to be finalized based on extensive consultations with the stakeholders, once negotiations resume.
- (e) to (g): Review of the existing FTAs is an ongoing process to maximise country's export potential to benefit the domestic industry, and to make the FTAs more user friendly, simple and trade facilitative.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2664**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**PROMOTION OF EXPORTS**

2664. SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of all schemes/ interventions and steps taken by the Government for the promotion of Indian exports in the global trade;
- (b) the details of reforms undertaken in the industrial policy for improving business environment and bringing foreign investments in India; and
- (c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen India's manufacturing sector vis-a-vis other nations with regard to better performance in Free Trade Agreements?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) Government is committed for promoting Indian exports in international markets and suitable interventions are done from time to time. The key schemes/interventions taken are:
  - i. The Foreign Trade Policy has been extended upto 30.09.2021 to provide a stable regime during the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - ii. Schemes such as the Advance Authorization Scheme and the Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme are being implemented to enable duty free import of raw materials and capital goods for export production.
  - iii. The Interest Equalization Scheme, which provides pre and post shipment Rupee export credit has been extended upto 30.09.2021.
  - iv. Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme has been operationalized for exports with effect from 01.01.2021.
  - v. It has been decided to extend the Rebate of State and Central Levies and Taxes (RoSCTL) Scheme for apparel and made-up exports till March 2024.
  - vi. Transport and Marketing Assistance (TMA) scheme for specified agriculture products provides assistance for the international component of freight and marketing of agricultural

- produce and to promote brand recognition for Indian agricultural products in the specified overseas markets.
- vii. A common digital platform for Certificate of Origin (CoO) has been launched to increase Free Trade Agreement (FTA) utilization by exporters.
  - viii. In order to leverage the full export potential of our vast country, Districts are being promoted as Exports Hubs by identifying products and services with export potential in each district, addressing bottlenecks for exporting these products/services and supporting such local exporters/manufactures through institutional and strategic interventions. District specific export action plans for 478 districts have been prepared.
  - ix. Exports of services is being supported through negotiating meaningful market access through multilateral, regional and bilateral trade agreements, through participation in and organization of international fairs/exhibitions like the Global Exhibition on Services. An 'Action Plan for Champion Sectors in Services' is being developed to give focused attention to identified Champion Services Sectors through identified nodal Ministries/Departments
  - x. Assistance is being extended to exporters under the Market Access Initiative (MAI) scheme for various activities such as export market research & product development, product registration, organizing / participating in fairs, exhibitions and Buyer Seller Meets (BSMs) abroad, Reverse Buyer Seller Meets etc.
  - xi. In order to have a coordinated and focused attention on development of export infrastructure, a working group on infrastructure up-gradation has been constituted under National Committee on Trade Facilitation (NCTF) and a National Trade Facilitation Action Plan (NTFAP) has been formulated. This includes measures for improving road and rail connectivity to ports and smart gates at sea ports.
- (b) Government is continuously engaged in strengthening Indian industry through "ease of doing business" for improving the business environment and attracting foreign investments. Details on measures taken in the recent past are as in the **Annexure**.
- (c) To make domestic manufacturing globally competitive and to create global champions in manufacturing, Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Schemes in 13 sectors are being implemented. The Government has initiated a review of some of the existing Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) to maximize its export potential to benefit domestic industry as well as to make them more user friendly, simple and trade facilitative. In addition, bilateral trade negotiations have been initiated with a number of countries.

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**REFERRED TO IN REPLY OF PART (B) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED  
QUESTION NO. 2664 FOR ANSWER ON 04.08.2021**

It has been the continuous endeavor of the Government of India to put in place an enabling and investor friendly Policy. In the last two years alone, the following reforms in the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy have been undertaken across sectors such as Coal Mining, Contract Manufacturing, Digital Media, Single Brand Retail Trading, Intermediaries or Insurance Intermediaries, Civil Aviation, Defence and Insurance:

(i) To liberalize and simplify FDI policy for providing Ease of doing business and attract investments, vide Press Note 4 (2019) dated 18.09.2019, following FDI Policy reforms have been undertaken:

- a) 100% FDI under automatic route have been permitted for coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure that includes coal washery, crushing, coal handling, separation (magnetic and non-magnetic). Earlier, 100% FDI under automatic route was permitted in coal mining for captive consumption only.
- b) Under the Manufacturing sector, in order to provide clarity on contract manufacturing, it has been decided to allow 100% FDI under automatic route in contract manufacturing and FDI is now permitted under automatic route in contract manufacturing through a legally tenable contract.
- c) Local sourcing norms have been eased for FDI in Single Brand Retail Trading (SBRT) and all procurements made from India by SBRT entity shall be counted towards local sourcing, irrespective of whether goods procured are sold in India or exported. Further, sourcing of goods from India for global operations can now be done directly by the SBRT entity or its group companies or indirectly through third party. As per the new policy, entire sourcing from India for global operations shall be considered towards local sourcing requirement as opposed to incremental sourcing previously. Now, retail trading through e-commerce can be undertaken prior to opening of brick and mortar stores, provided the entity opens brick and mortar stores within 2 years from date of start of online retail.
- d) As per the FDI policy, for 'News & Current Affairs', 49% FDI under Government route is permitted in case of TV channels, and 26% FDI is permitted in case of print media with government approval. However, there was no specific provision pertaining to digital media. In order to address this gap, 26% FDI has been permitted under government route for uploading/streaming of News & Current Affairs through Digital Media.

(ii) Insurance Sector: Vide Press Note 1(2020) dated 21.02.2020, 100% FDI has been permitted in Intermediaries or Insurance Intermediaries including insurance brokers, re-insurance brokers, insurance consultants, corporate agents, third party administrator, Surveyors and Loss Assessors and such other entities, as may be notified by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority from time to time. Vide Press Note 2(2021) dated 14.06.2021 the permissible FDI limit was raised from 49% to 74% in Insurance Companies under the automatic route and allow foreign ownership and control with safeguards.

(iii) **Civil Aviation:** Vide Press Note 2 (2020) dated 19.03.2020, Foreign Investment(s) in M/s Air India Ltd. has been permitted up to 100% under automatic route by NRIs, who are Indian Nationals

(iv) **Curbing opportunistic takeovers/acquisitions of Indian companies due to the COVID-19 pandemic:** In order to curb opportunistic takeovers/acquisitions of Indian companies due to the COVID-19 pandemic, vide Press Note 3(2020) dt. 17.04.2020, Government amended the FDI policy according to which an entity of a country, which shares land border with India or where the beneficial owner of an investment into India is situated in or is a citizen of any such country, can invest only under the Government route. Further, in the event of the transfer of ownership of any existing or future FDI in an entity in India, directly or indirectly, resulting in the beneficial ownership falling within the restriction/purview of the said policy amendment, such subsequent change in beneficial ownership will also require Government approval.

(v) **Defence Sector:** The FDI policy amendments, notified vide Press Note 4 (2020 series) dated 17.09.2020, have been carried out to realize the vision of an Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Now, FDI in defense sector is allowed up to 74% through automatic route (from earlier 49%) for companies seeking new industrial licenses. FDI beyond 74% and up to 100% will be permitted under Government route. For existing FDI approved holders/defense licensees, infusion of fresh foreign investment up to 49% resulting in change in equity/ shareholding pattern can be done by making declaration within 30 days (earlier Government approval was required). Now, foreign investments in the defense sector shall be subject to scrutiny on grounds of National Security.

(vi) Vide Press Note 1(2021) dated 19.03.2021, clarity has been provided on downstream investments made by Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) according to which Investments by NRI(s) on a non-repatriation basis as stipulated under Schedule IV of FEM (Non Debt Instrument) Rules 2019 are deemed to be domestic investments at par with the investments made by residents.

2. States have been encouraged to carry out reforms in ease of doing business and reducing compliance burden. Based on a detailed analysis of 5 states i.e. Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, seven parameters have been identified i.e. single window system, Land/property, tax compliance, labor compliance, rationalizing inspection mechanism, logistic cost, dispute resolution mechanism for further reform.

3. Measures taken by the Government on FDI policy reforms have resulted in increased FDI inflows in the country. FDI inflow in India stood at US\$ 45.15 billion in 2014-15 and has continuously increased since then. FDI inflows increased to US\$ 55.56 billion in 2015-16, US\$ 60.22 billion in 2016-17, US\$ 60.97 billion in 2017-18, US\$ 62.00 billion in 2018-19, US\$ 74.39 billion in the year 2019-20 and India registered its highest ever annual FDI inflow of US\$ 81.72 billion (provisional figures) in the financial year 2020-21.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2708**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**DIGITALIZATION OF PROCESS**

2708. DR. CHANDRA SEN JADON:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to digitalize the process of application, reply to query and Grant of License for Import of Restricted Items; and
- (b) if so, the status and details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) & (b): The process for application of licence for restricted items is online and paperless with effect from 23.03.2021. This includes the process of issuance, amendment and re-validation of the import licences.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) Helpdesk service is a single-point ticket-based system to address international trade related issues including queries for issuance of grant of import licence for restricted items.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2722**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**ATTARI - WAGAH BORDER ROAD TRADE**

2722. SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to use Attari-Wagah Border post to allow trade with land locked countries and Europe and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that the Attari-Wagah land route has a potential to counter road trade of China with these countries to a great extent and has the capability to flourish the industries of Northern border areas in particular and North India in general in a big way; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (c): An Integrated Check Post (ICP) at Attari, established in April 2012, facilitates land-based international trade. With a view to facilitate an alternate and reliable access route to landlocked countries, in January 2015, India had announced its decision to allow Afghan trucks to enter the Indian territory through ICP Attari for off-loading and loading goods from and to Afghanistan. However, Pakistan does not allow transit through its territory for Indian goods imported by Afghanistan through ICP Attari. Bilateral trade between India and Pakistan, including through ICP Attari, remains suspended as a result of unilateral measures taken by Pakistan in August 2019.

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2756**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**TEA INDUSTRY**

2756. SHRI PALLAB LOCHAN DAS:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Tea Industry is operated through a special auction system;
- (b) if so, the procedure of auction in different tea producing States;
- (c) the details and the number of brokers in the auction centres across the country; and
- (d) the quantum of tea produced and imported to the country, State/UT-wise?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

- (a) & (b): Auction of Tea in India is operated through Pan India e-auction platform with 7 auction centres, and the newly established Jorhat auction platform. Auctions are conducted as per the procedure and rules framed by Tea Board. The rules are displayed on the web-site of the Tea Board, <http://www.teaboard.gov.in>. The auction rules for Pan India e-auction platform are uniform both in North and South Indian auction centres except lot size, divisibility etc. which are dependent on availability of tea in North India and South India. Auctions on the Jorhat Auction Platform are governed by a separate set of rules wherein no brokers are involved.
- (c) There are 25 brokers involved in the Pan India e-auction platform. No broker is involved in the Jorhat auction platform.
- (d) The details of tea produced State/UT-wise during the year 2020-21 is given in the Annexure-I. State wise data of import is not maintained. The details of country wise import for the year 2020-21 is given in Annexure-II.

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**Annexure-I**

## State/UT wise Production of Tea

Million Kgs.

State	2020-21
Assam	626.23
West Bengal	396.05
Arunachal Pradesh	10.81
Bihar	6.33
Himachal Pradesh	1.09
Meghalaya	0.43
Nagaland	1.52
Sikkim	0.07
Tripura	8.21
Uttarakhand	0.06
Tamil Nadu	160.04
Kerala	66.85
Karnataka	5.34
All India	1283.03



**Annexure-II**

## Country wise import of tea into India

Million Kgs	
Origin	2020-21
ARGENTINA	0.79
AUSTRALIA	0.05
CHINA	0.53
INDONESIA	0.93
IRAN	0.06
KENYA	9.50
MALAWI	0.24
MOZAMBIQUE	0.55
MYANMAR	0.02
NEPAL	10.74
RWANDA	0.08
SOUTH AFRICA	0.04
SRI LANKA	0.40
TANZANIA	0.33
TURKEY	0.02
U.A.E	0.07
U.S.A	0.19
UGANDA	0.05
UNITED KINGDOM	0.32
VIETNAM	2.18
ZIMBABWE	0.18
TOTAL	27.27

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2759**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 04<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

**GOLD DORE BARS**

2759. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHARANDAS MAHANT:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of import by the Government companies of Gold Dore Bars having Gold content not exceeding 95 percentage with regard to entities other than Government companies;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to support entities engaged in refining of precious metals and stones;
- (c) whether the Government has taken initiative to attract investors to engage in refining of precious metals and stones; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a): Gold Dore can be imported by refineries against a license issued by Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) with Actual User condition. DGFT has not issued import license to any Government company in the last three years.

(b) to (d): The Government has made amendments to Gold Monetisation Scheme, 2015 (GMS) in February, 2021 which includes Revamped Gold Deposit Scheme (R-GDS) and Revamped Gold Metal Loan Scheme (R-GML), inter-alia, comprising measures to help entities engaged in refining of gold and attract investors in gold refining, such as :

(i) provision to recognise Refiners certified as CPTCs by BIS and meeting additional eligibility conditions set by IBA as GMS Mobilisation, Collection & Testing Agent (GMCTA);

(ii) allowing Banks to buy standard gold bullion from Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)/ National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) certified refineries implementing LBMA or India Good Delivery Standards (IGDS);

(iii) allowing Interbank lending of IGDS/LBMA standard bullion to enable meet Gold Metal Loan (GML) obligations to reduce the need to lease gold from international markets;

(iv) allowing repayment of gold loan under GML using locally sourced IGDS/LBMA gold.

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