

and changes are made in it as and when considered necessary. Presently, there is no move to shift fabrics from the Restricted list of Negative list of Imports. As per current Exim Policy, credit facility under Duty Entitlement Pass Book Scheme is available for all items, except those appearing in the Negative List of Imports.

Trade with Neighbouring Countries

5546. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR:

SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA:

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL:

DR. ASIM BALA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

- whether India's trade with its neighbouring countries has doubled during each of the last three years;
- if so, the details thereof, year-wise and country-wise;
- the main items which were imported and exported during the above period, country-wise;
- whether India has signed any agreement with its neighbouring countries particularly Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal recently;
- if so, the details thereof, separately; and
- how far these agreements are likely to boost the trade with its neighbouring countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) India's trade with Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and China has grown by 48.31%, 51.10% and 38.65% during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively. In the case of trade with Myanmar (figures compiled in US \$), the trade growth rate has been 20.27%, 4.47% and 18.92% during the same period.

(b) Statement-I showing India's trade with these neighbouring countries from 1992-93 upto 1996-97 (Apr-Feb) year-wise and countrywise is enclosed.

(c) The main items which were imported and exported during the above period, country-wise, are shown in Statement-II attached.

(d) and (e) India has existing bilateral trade agreements/treaties with each one of these neighbouring countries except Pakistan and no fresh Agreement has been signed recently with any of these neighbouring countries except that the existing Treaty of Trade between India and Nepal has been extended for a further period of 5 years in December 1996. On 11th April 1993, an Agreement on Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA) was signed by these seven countries as Members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) under which tariff concessions are being exchanged and the aim is to establish a Free Trade Area preferably by 2000 A.D. but not later than 2005 A.D.

(f) India's trade with the SAARC Member countries is on the increase.

Statement-I

India's Trade with Neighbouring Countries

(Value in Rs. crores)

Country	1992-93		Total Trade		1993-94		Total Trade		1994-95		Total Trade		1995-96		Total Trade		1996-97 (Apr-Feb)		Total Trade
	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	
Bangladesh	1030.86	35.99	1066.85	1349.69	56.09	1405.78	2024.13	119.85	2143.98	3469.91	282.14	3752.05	2624.68	194.44	2819.12				
Bhutan	6.29	3.5	9.79	31.10	9.34	40.44	34.83	57.40	92.23	57.56	107.20	222.32	63.88	85.35	149.23				
Maldives	18.63	0.21	18.84	24.63	1.02	25.65	48.28	0.73	49.01	52.52	0.55	53.07	33.27	0.51	33.78				
Nepal	210.48	71.75	282.23	304.87	85.62	390.49	377.00	114.89	491.89	536.45	166.95	703.95	543.06	265.72	808.78				
Pakistan	151.27	373.50	524.77	200.66	136.48	337.14	179.71	165.61	345.32	256.80	150.80	407.60	511.12	124.37	635.50				
Sri Lanka	646.61	40.61	687.22	897.47	62.19	959.66	1151.08	96.49	1247.57	1335.62	145.83	1481.45	1499.92	145.31	1645.23				
China	409.18	364.90	774.08	857.19	972.35	1829.54	799.72	2368.02	3167.74	1097.44	2732.84	3830.28	1903.32	2334.97	4238.29				
Total	2473.32	890.46	3363.78	3665.61	1323.09	4988.70	4614.75	3665.61	7537.74	6806.08	3586.31	10450.72	7179.25	3150.68	10329.23				
%Growth						48.31			51.10			38.65							
Myanmar	6.79	111.27	118.06	21.00	121.00	142.00	21.78	126.58	148.36	25.27	157.73	183.00	26.65(*)	105.91(*)	132.56(*)				
(Values in US\$ Million)																			
%Growth						20.27			4.47			18.92							

(*) Figures for April-November 1996

Source: DGCI&S, Calcutta

Statement-II

Country	Exports from India	Imports by India
Bangladesh	Rice (other than Basmati), Glass, Enamels & Ceramics, Machinery & Instruments, Transport Equipments, Cotton Yarn/Fabrics	Raw Jute, Fertilizers (manu.) Chemicals
Bhutan	Spirit & Beverages, Misc. processed items	Wood and Wood products Inorganic Chemicals
Maldives	Rice, Glass/glswr/Cramica Cotton Yarn & Fabrics, Manufacture of Metals	Metalliferous & Metal Scrap
Nepal	Drugs & Pharmaceuticals, Machinery & Instruments, Primary & Semi Finished Iron & Steel, Coal, Cotton Yarn/Fabrics, Paper & Wood products	Pulses, Spices, Textile Yarn/Fabrics Essl. Oils & Cosmetics
Pakistan	Spices, Oil Meals, Iron Ore, Dyes & Intermediaries	Fruits and Nuts and Cashewnuts, Spices, Raw Wool, Textile Yarn/Fabrics
Sri Lanka	Transport Equipment, Gls/glswr, Fresh Vegetable Cotton yarn & Fabrics, Spices, Oil Meals, Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	Metalliferous, Ores and Metals Scrap, Natural Rubber
China	Iron Ore, Other Ores & Minerals, Oil Meals, Caster Oil, Iron & Steel, Primary & Semi finished Iron & Steel Cotton Yarn/Fabrics/ Made-ups, Plastics & Linoleum, Drugs, Pharma & fine Chemicals	Organic Chemicals, Coal, Coke & briquettes, Raw Silk Medicinal & Pharma products Electronic Goods, Newsprint machinery except Electric & Electronics, Textile Yarn, Fabrics & made ups, Non- Ferrous Metals, Project Goods
Myanmar	Engineering goods, Gls/ Glswr, Paints, Ceramics, Enamels Varnishes, Cement, Primary & Semi finished Iron & Steel, Iron & Steel (Bar/Rods)	Pulses, Wood & Wood Products