

## **Regarding promotion of Exports**

**SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV (HINDUPUR):** Thank you very much, Chairman Sir. I would like to address the issue of rising trade imbalance with China.

The trade deficit with China has crossed the USD 100 billion mark, which is a matter of concern. There are two problems with this trade imbalance. Firstly, its large size means that its ability to adversely impact our economy is immense. We should not be this vulnerable as it affects our national security. Secondly, there is a consistent pattern of widening trade deficits. The trade deficit stood at USD 69 billion in 2021, and increased considerably in only two years' time. A major reason why this is the case is that there is only a narrow basket of low per-unit value goods being exported to China. I urge the Government to ensure channels for the export of high per-unit goods.

Pharmaceuticals are of great value and their viability has been aided by district specific development, for example, in Visakhapatnam and East Godavari. Pharmaceuticals is among some of their top exports. Moreover, there is nothing wrong in allowing for investments in the tobacco sector if it is just for export purposes as it will also help increase the income of tobacco farmers, such as in Guntur and allied regions. Promotion of such exports can help the country and also individual districts.

Thank you, Sir.