

A STUDY ON FOREIGN TRADE IN INDIA IN THE POST LIBERALISATION ERA

Dr. A. Mohamed Abdullah

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Periyar EVR College (Autonomous),
(Affiliated to Bharathidasan University), Trichy, Tamil Nadu, India.

S. Suriyakanth

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, H.H. The Rajah's College (Autonomous),
(Affiliated to Bharathidasan University), Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu, India.

Abstract

Foreign trade makes a significant contribution to the economic growth of a country. The policy regime in India about the liberalization of the external sector has brought tremendous changes in India's foreign trade. So, the present study attempts to analyze the trend and composition of trade since 1991 and also to analyze the impact on the economic growth of India. The study reveals that though the total exports and imports both have increased the growth rate of imports is more than the growth rate of exports. It is also noted that manufactured goods comprise the major portion of the export goods while petroleum and crude products contribute to the major portion of the imported goods. The study also reveals that import has a negative influence on economic growth while export and economic openness are positively related to the economic growth of India.

Keywords: *Economic Growth, Growth Rate, Export, Import and Balance of Trade*

INTRODUCTION

Foreign Trade is very crucial for a country's economic development as it has made an increasingly significant contribution to economic growth and substantially to the economic welfare of the people. The foreign trade of a country consists of inward and outward movement of goods and services, which results in outflow and inflow of foreign exchange from one country to another country. No country in the world possesses adequate facilities for economical production of all the goods and services that are consumed by its people. This implies that no country is self-sufficient in the sense that no country can produce all the goods that it needs. Hence, the need to trade with each other arises. Economies of scale and international specialisation which is also the fruits of scientific and technological progress in the world would

become more easily accessible through foreign trade. Developing countries need more goods to feed a rapidly growing population. Exports can be a leading sector in growth. It implies that increased earnings from higher marketability of a country's commodities in the international market would stimulate the indigenous industrial activity within the country. This in turn brings many distinct benefits, viz., greater utilisation of resources, larger employment opportunities, more foreign exchange, etc. It was thus considered that foreign trade would make an impressive contribution to a country's development; hence it is considered to be not simply a device for achieving productive efficiency; but also an engine of growth. International trade has now become a vital part of development strategy and it can be an effective instrument of economic growth, employment generation and poverty alleviation in an economy.

NECESSITY OF THE STUDY

As a result of long-term poor economic performance under protectionist policies, many developing countries including India started removing their barriers to international trade in the late 1980s to improve the economic development of the country. During the time of independence, the foreign trade of India was typical of that of a colonial and agricultural economy, and the trade relations were mainly confined to Britain and other Commonwealth countries. During the period 1950 -1990, the foreign trade of India suffered from strict bureaucratic and discretionary controls. Although the Indian foreign liberalization era started in the 1970s but only in the late 1980s and early 1990s, drastic changes have started taking place as far as Indian foreign trade is concerned. In 1991, the Government of India introduced a series of economic reforms to liberalize and globalize the Indian economy. Since the initiation of economic reforms, India's outward orientation has started increasing. The Indian trade policy experienced various changes from time to time after its initiation and the major changes included simplification of procedures, removal of quantitative restrictions and substantial reduction in the tariff rates. The policy regime in India about the liberalization of the external sector has brought tremendous changes in Indians foreign trade. Thus, it is in this connection that the present study aims to analyze the trend and composition of foreign trade since 1991.

OBJECTIVES

The study aims to achieve the following specified objectives:

1. To examine the role of foreign trade in the economic growth of India

2. To analyse the trend and composition of foreign trade in India since 1991.

Trends of India's Foreign Trade

The impact of trade reforms is apparent from the changing structure of India's Foreign Trade in terms of trend and diversity of market and products. Table 1 presents the growth rates of total exports and total imports measured over the period 1990-91 to 2019-20. During the 1990s, Indian exports have performed well in certain years, and not so well in some other years. The growth rate was high in 1993-94 and 1995-96 at 20 per cent and 20.8 per cent respectively, but declined sharply in 1996-97 to 5.3 per cent, and continuously till 1998-99 on account of the South East Asian crisis and Worldwide recession. It again recovered to 10.8 per cent in 1999-2000 and reached the highest growth rate at 30.8 per cent in 2004-05. However, the growth rate of export again dropped to -3.5 per cent in 2009-10 in view of the global meltdown. But in 2010-11, the growth rate of export made a jump to 40.5 per cent and 21.8 per cent and 2012-13 respectively. However, the cumulative value of exports in 2019-20 was the US \$ 313138 million and registered a growth rate of -1.5 per cent.

On the other hand, the growth rate of import which was 13.5 per cent in 1990-91 rose to 28 per cent 1995-96. However, it declined to 2.2 per cent in 1998-99 but again rose to 17.2 per cent in 1999-2000 and thus it reached the highest growth rate of 42.7 per cent in 2004-05. Again in 2006-07, it dropped to 24.5 per cent as against 33.8 per cent in 2005-06. However, the growth rate of import rose to 35.5 per cent in 2008-09 and again it dropped to -5 per cent in 2009-10. Finally, the cumulative value of import in 2019-20 was the US \$ 473995 million and registered a growth rate of -7.8 per cent (Table 1).

Table 1: Trend of Export and Import in India

(US \$ Million)

Year	Exports	Imports	Trade Balance	Rate of Change	
				Exports	Imports
1990-91	18143	24075	-5932	9.2	13.5
1991-92	17865	19411	-1546	-1.5	-19.4
1992-93	18537	21882	-3345	3.8	12.7
1993-94	22238	23306	-1068	20.0	6.5
1994-95	26330	28654	-2324	18.4	22.9
1995-96	31797	36678	-4881	20.8	28.0
1996-97	33470	39133	-5663	5.3	6.7
1997-98	35006	41484	-6478	4.6	6.0
1998-99	33218	42389	-9171	-5.1	2.2
1999-20	36822	49671	-12849	10.8	17.2
2000-01	44076	49975	-5899	19.7	0.6
2001-02	43827	51413	-7587	-0.6	2.9
2002-03	52719	61412	-8693	20.3	19.4
2003-04	63843	78149	-14307	21.1	27.3
2004-05	83536	111517	-27981	30.8	42.7
2005-06	103091	149166	-46075	23.4	33.8
2006-07	126414	185735	-59321	22.6	24.5
2007-08	163132	251654	-88522	29.0	35.5
2008-09	185295	303696	-118401	13.6	20.7
2009-10	178751	288373	-109621	-3.5	-5.0
2010-11	251136	369769	-118633	40.5	28.2
2011-12	305963	489319	-183355	21.8	32.3
2012-13	300400	490736	-190336	-1.8	0.3
2013-14	314415	450213	-135797	4.7	-8.3
2014-15	310352	448033	-137681	-1.3	-0.5
2015-16	262291	381007	-118716	-15.5	-15.0
2016-17	275852	384357	-108504	5.2	0.9
2017-18	303526	465581	-162054	10.0	21.1
2018-19	330078	514078	-184000	8.7	10.4
2019-20	313138	473995	-160856	-1.5	-7.8

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics.

Composition of India's Foreign Trade

Composition of foreign trade means goods that India is exporting and goods that India is importing. Therefore, the composition of trade consists of the composition of exports as well as the composition of imports.

Composition of Export

Composition of exports means goods that India is selling to other countries. At the time of independence, India's export consisted mainly of agricultural products like tea, spices, tobacco and other raw materials etc. India also exported cotton textiles and jute products in large quantities. With the industrialization of the economy, the composition of export has changed. Many raw materials that India exported earlier are now being used in newly developed industries. Therefore, the proportion of raw materials in our exports has declined while that of manufactured goods has increased. Efforts were made to diversify and expand our exports. It was necessary as our imports were increasing. Therefore, over the years, many new commodities have emerged in our export list. We are now exporting large quantities of items such as engineering goods, petroleum products, gems & jewellery, drugs & pharmaceuticals, textiles, organic & inorganic chemicals, handloom products and electronic goods. However, the export of items such as cotton fabric, rice, marine products, leather products, tea, jute manufactures, spices etc., also continues (Table 2).

Table 2: Exports of Principal Commodities

(US \$ Million)

Commodity / Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1. Tea	681.8	720.0	731.3	837.4	830.9	826.5
2. Coffee	814.0	783.9	842.8	968.6	822.3	738.9
3. Rice	7853.1	5846.6	5733.8	7806.2	7750.6	6396.6
4. Other cereals	869.1	261.2	212.3	248.6	349.0	204.4
5. Tobacco	958.6	982.0	958.7	934.3	981.3	905.0
6. Spices	2430.3	2541.5	2851.9	3115.4	3322.4	3622.6
7. Cashew	909.3	768.6	786.9	922.4	654.4	566.8
8. Oil Meals	1324.2	553.0	805.4	1093.2	1508.6	827.5
9. Oilseeds	1735.4	1246.9	1355.2	1174.3	1156.8	1318.1
10. Fruits & Vegetables	2153.5	2268.8	2454.7	2513.3	2540.9	2373.6
11. Cereal preparations & miscellaneous processed items	1257.7	1319.8	1270.8	1416.6	1555.4	1536.4
12. Marine Products	5510.5	4767.5	5903.1	7389.2	6802.6	6722.0
13. Meat, dairy & poultry products	5385.0	4575.5	4368.8	4610.1	4363.7	3714.1
14. Iron Ore	515.3	191.5	1533.5	1471.1	1317.3	2625.0
15. Mica, Coal & Other Ores, Minerals including processed minerals	3903.5	3656.0	3578.2	3776.9	4254.7	3941.8
16. Leather & leather products	6030.5	5407.8	5165.6	5289.1	5140.8	4645.3
17. Ceramic products & glassware	1644.4	1712.1	1856.6	2131.8	2649.2	2869.9
18. Gems & Jewellery	41266.1	39284.3	43412.8	41544.4	40251.0	35891.7
19. Drugs & Pharmaceuticals	15431.5	16909.5	16785.0	17282.8	19146.6	20702.7
20. Organic & Inorganic Chemicals	12473.6	11731.3	12336.1	15949.5	19222.7	18723.6
21. Engineering Goods	73074.8	61949.5	67216.1	78695.7	83621.6	78688.4
22. Electronic Goods	6260.8	5959.5	5962.9	6393.1	8829.4	11700.9
23. Cotton Yarn/Fabs./made-ups, Handloom Products etc.	10774.6	10119.4	9862.2	10260.4	11215.1	10026.0
24. Man-made Yarn/Fabs./made-ups etc.	5275.0	4621.7	4557.1	4826.3	4980.5	4821.0
25. RMG of all Textiles	16833.3	16964.4	17368.2	16706.9	16138.3	15487.7
26. Jute Mfg. including Floor Covering	297.0	295.4	309.9	335.1	324.9	342.6
27. Carpet	1360.8	1440.1	1490.2	1429.8	1481.9	1373.3
28. Handicrafts excl. handmade carpet	1378.0	1648.0	1926.7	1823.3	1838.1	1786.5
29. Petroleum Products	56794.1	30582.6	31545.3	37465.1	46553.6	41163.8
30. Plastic & Linoleum	5746.0	5764.2	5796.5	6851.1	8607.5	7551.1
31. Other Commodities	19410.2	17418.8	16873.7	18264.2	21865.7	21044.9
Total Exports	310352.0	262291.1	275852.4	303526.2	330078.1	313138.5

Source: Handbook of Statistics on Indian Economy 2019-20, RBI

Composition of Imports

Composition of imports means goods that India is buying from other countries. At the time of Independence, our country was primarily an agricultural economy. The industry was not so much developed. The partition of the country, however, brought food shortage because our wheat-growing areas remained with Pakistan. Therefore, India had to import large quantities of food grains and other goods. Also, most of the cotton and jute producing areas remained with Pakistan. We had, therefore, to import a large quantity of raw cotton and raw jute.

With the development of the economy over the years, there was a marked change in the composition of imports. Economic development required setting up of new industries, modernization of agriculture and industry. For this, capital goods like machinery, transport, equipment, and raw materials, chemicals and fertilizers, petroleum products etc. are imported. Due to increasing home production of food grains there has been a rapid decline in their imports and now we are self-sufficient in food grains. Our major imports now consist of capital goods, metals and minerals, chemicals and fertilizers, petroleum, oil and lubricants (POL) etc., which are required to meet the developmental needs of our economy.

Table 3: Imports of Principal Commodities**(US \$ Million)**

Commodity / Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1. Cotton Raw & Waste	508.8	394.1	946.9	979.3	633.1	1328.4
2. Vegetable Oil	10621.5	10492.1	10892.7	11637.5	9890.3	9672.9
3. Pulses	2786.1	3902.2	4244.1	2908.3	1140.8	1440.1
4. Fruits & vegetables	1665.7	1853.3	1783.4	2092.6	2143.9	2221.3
5. Pulp and Waste paper	944.0	955.7	975.1	1154.6	1311.7	1143.0
6. Textile yarn Fabric, made-up articles	1691.5	1715.1	1502.5	1837.3	1900.0	1923.2
7. Fertilizers, Crude & manufactured	7398.7	8071.5	5024.0	5376.3	7467.4	7468.1
8. Sulphur & Unroasted Iron Pyrites	286.4	217.1	131.2	165.9	217.1	117.7
9. Metaliferrous ores & other minerals	9299.4	7298.6	6194.2	9096.9	7583.3	5088.9
10. Coal, Coke & Briquettes, etc.	17802.6	13667.6	15759.9	22901.2	26177.8	22455.1
11. Petroleum, Crude & products	138325.5	82944.5	86963.8	108658.7	140920.6	130531.9
12. Wood & Wood products	5471.0	5048.1	4891.8	6027.3	6126.5	5612.2
13. Leather & leather products	1005.1	968.1	935.3	1009.2	1057.7	1014.0
14. Organic & Inorganic Chemicals	18593.0	16586.4	16598.4	20631.5	23827.7	20617.2
15. Dyeing/tanning/colouring materials	2447.8	2247.5	2282.7	2887.5	3221.9	2906.3
16. Artificial resins, plastic materials, etc.	12070.3	11794.6	11964.0	14487.7	15682.0	14633.5
17. Chemical material & products	5306.0	5151.8	5375.1	6663.4	7707.6	7643.2
18. Newsprint	839.3	805.4	849.9	776.7	977.7	700.6
19. Pearls, precious & Semi-precious stones	22598.2	20069.9	23808.6	34278.9	27075.7	22458.8
20. Iron & Steel	16301.3	14977.5	11683.0	14617.6	17656.7	15369.5
21. Non-ferrous metals	10746.1	9726.1	9868.8	12811.7	14733.0	13138.7
22. Machine tools	3137.2	2757.5	3034.6	3519.6	4642.5	4193.1
23. Machinery, electrical & non-electrical	27979.1	29436.1	28445.8	34258.8	39758.7	39568.2
24. Transport equipment	18345.4	18227.8	22687.7	22732.5	24775.8	24568.9
25. Project goods	3631.4	2761.1	2074.4	2077.6	2375.6	2025.5
26. Professional instrument, Optical goods, etc.	3714.5	3621.7	3857.2	4754.6	5187.4	5020.1
27. Electronic goods	36857.1	40021.9	41930.4	51540.9	55471.0	52526.7
28. Medical & Pharmaceutical products	5432.8	5440.0	4995.0	5480.7	6359.5	6460.5
29. Gold	34407.2	31770.7	27518.0	33657.2	32910.1	28229.7
30. Silver	4523.5	3742.7	1839.2	3213.8	3748.2	2727.8
31. Other Commodities	23297.0	24340.8	25299.2	23345.4	21397.4	21190.4
Total Imports	448033.4	381007.8	384357.0	465581.0	514078.4	473995.2

Source: Handbook of Statistics on Indian Economy 2019-20, RBI

The direction of Foreign Trade

India has trade relations with all the major trading blocks and geographical regions of the world. Region and sub-region-wise spread of India's trade during 2017-18 to 2019-20 are given in Table 4. The share of OECD and OPEC countries accounted for 54.6 per cent of India's total exports. Among the developing countries, the share of Asia accounted for 43.4 per cent. The share of the European Union and North America in India's exports stood at 17.3 per cent and 16.7 per cent respectively. During the period, USA (15.9 per cent) has been the most important country of export destination following by United Arab Emirates (10 per cent), China and Hong Kong (4.4 per cent), Singapore (3.2 per cent), U.K. (3.0 per cent), Germany (2.7 per cent), Netherlands (2.2 per cent), Belgium (2.0 per cent), Saudi Arabia (1.9 per cent) and Italy (1.7 per cent).

On the other hand, OECD and OPEC countries accounted for 53 per cent of India's total imports during the period followed by Europe (11 per cent) and the USA (6.4 per cent). Among individual countries, the share of China stood highest at (15.1 per cent) followed by North America (7.3 per cent), UAE (5.5 per cent), Saudi Arabia (5.3 per cent), Iraq (3.9 per cent), Australia (2.6 per cent) and Japan (2.5 per cent).

Table 4: Direction of Foreign Trade - Export**(US \$ Million)**

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total	Percentage
I.O E C D Countries	100837.8	104487.9	119622.4	128175.0	124014.1	577137.2	38.9
A. European Union	44590.7	47308.8	53603.8	57203.1	53737.4	256443.8	17.3
Of which:							
1.Belgium	5027.6	5656.9	6206.9	6729.9	5809.9	29431.2	2.0
2.France	4633.4	5250.0	4900.3	5232.6	5097.6	25113.9	1.7
3.Germany	7092.9	7181.6	8687.8	8902.4	8290.7	40155.4	2.7
4.Italy	4217.7	4902.2	5709.9	5593.4	4970.8	25394.0	1.7
5.Netherlands	4725.1	5069.7	6261.1	8812.8	8365.6	33234.3	2.2
6.U K	8828.5	8530.1	9691.1	9309.3	8737.6	45096.6	3.0
B. North America	42354.4	44216.4	50384.6	55257.7	55935.6	248148.7	16.7
1.Canada	2018.4	2004.1	2506.2	2851.4	2851.5	12231.6	0.8
2.U S A	40336.0	42212.3	47878.5	52406.3	53084.0	235917.1	15.9
C. Asia and Oceania	8233.9	7113.2	9099.4	8762.0	7750.1	40958.6	2.8
Of which:							
1.Australia	3263.0	2957.8	4012.3	3520.4	2851.8	16605.3	1.1
2.Japan	4662.8	3845.7	4734.2	4861.7	4519.8	22624.2	1.5
D. Other O E C D Countries	5658.8	5849.5	6534.5	6952.2	6591.0	31586.0	2.1
Of which:							0.0
1.Switzerland	977.2	978.1	1083.8	1186.7	1200.0	5425.8	0.4
II.O P E C	46272.8	45200.0	44303.0	48780.5	48180.2	232736.5	15.7
Of which:							
1.Iran	2781.5	2379.6	2652.4	3511.0	3373.6	14698.1	1.0
2.Iraq	1004.4	1111.4	1462.2	1788.7	1878.2	7244.9	0.5
3.Kuwait	1247.5	1498.0	1365.7	1333.9	1286.6	6731.7	0.5
4.Saudi Arabia	6381.5	5110.3	5410.7	5561.7	6236.9	28701.1	1.9
5.U A E	30316.5	31175.5	28146.1	30126.7	28853.5	148618.3	10.0
III. Eastern Europe	2415.7	2820.4	3036.7	3504.0	4235.8	16012.6	1.1
Of which:							
1.Russia	1587.8	1937.1	2113.4	2389.5	3017.6	11045.4	0.7
IV. Developing Countries	110039.4	120658.3	133905.1	146523.5	134049.2	645175.5	43.4
A. Asia	76940.1	88573.7	100021.7	108513.8	95866.9	469916.2	31.6
a).S A A R C	18594.2	19222.1	23100.9	25348.8	21892.1	108158.1	7.3
1. Afghanistan	526.6	506.3	709.7	715.4	997.6	3455.6	0.2
2.Bangladesh	6034.9	6820.1	8614.3	9210.1	8189.0	38868.4	2.6
3.Bhutan	469.0	509.3	546.1	657.3	715.3	2897.0	0.2
4.Maldives	179.1	197.8	217.0	223.0	226.6	1043.5	0.1
5.Nepal	3902.7	5453.6	6613.0	7766.2	7146.2	30881.7	2.1
6.Pakistan	2171.2	1821.9	1924.3	2066.6	816.6	8800.6	0.6
7.Sri Lanka	5310.7	3913.2	4476.5	4710.2	3800.9	22211.5	1.5
b). Other Asian Developing Countries	58346.0	69351.6	76920.8	83165.0	73974.8	361758.2	24.4
Of which:							
1.People's Republic of China	9011.4	10171.9	13333.5	16752.2	16607.2	65876.2	4.4
2.Hong Kong	12092.3	14047.2	14690.3	13002.0	10967.0	64798.8	4.4
3.South Korea	3523.4	4241.4	4461.0	4705.1	4845.1	21776.0	1.5
4.Malaysia	3706.8	5224.9	5701.6	6436.3	6364.4	27434.0	1.8
5.Singapore	7719.8	9564.6	10202.8	11572.3	8922.6	47982.1	3.2
6.Thailand	2987.9	3133.4	3653.8	4441.4	4299.3	18515.8	1.2
7.Indonesia	2819.5	3488.1	3963.8	5275.6	4123.9	19670.9	1.3
B. Africa	21683.5	20251.9	21472.5	24166.8	24318.9	111893.6	7.5
Of which:							
1.Benin	427.3	447.9	479.7	426.9	326.6	2108.4	0.1
2.Egypt Arab Republic	2337.7	2067.4	2392.3	2886.4	2504.2	12188.0	0.8
3.Kenya	3025.9	2194.3	1974.6	2071.8	2108.6	11375.2	0.8
4.South Africa	3588.1	3546.0	3825.2	4067.2	4108.1	19134.6	1.3
5.Sudan	782.4	748.7	822.7	920.9	1096.9	4371.6	0.3
6.Tanzania	1654.6	1783.6	1618.8	1704.0	1740.1	8501.1	0.6
7.Zambia	298.1	237.2	294.3	319.1	247.6	1396.3	0.1
C. Latin American Countries	11415.7	11832.7	12411.0	13842.9	13863.4	63365.7	4.3
V. Others	242.4	215.6	229.3	187.9	137.4	1012.6	0.1
VI. Unspecified	2482.9	2470.1	2429.7	2907.2	2521.9	12811.8	0.9
Total	262291.1	275852.4	303526.2	330078.1	313138.5	1484886.3	100.0

Source: Handbook of Statistics on Indian Economy 2019-20, RBI

Table 5: Direction of Foreign Trade - Import**(US \$ Million)**

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Total	Percentage
I.O E C D Countries	109912.2	109264.6	126728.5	144875.7	133137.4	623918.4	28.1
A. European Union	43938.4	42389.3	47880.8	58433.8	51208.8	243851.1	11.0
Of which:							
1.Belgium	8256.1	6624.6	5993.4	10469.2	8879.4	40222.7	1.8
2.France	3730.3	5707.8	6524.2	6665.7	5955.2	28583.2	1.3
3.Germany	12088.4	11583.7	13295.7	15161.1	13351.3	65480.2	3.0
4.Italy	4072.2	3895.0	4706.9	5292.4	4489.1	22455.6	1.0
5.Netherlands	1859.9	1895.7	2512.6	4062.8	3390.7	13721.7	0.6
6.U K	5192.5	3665.0	4806.8	7561.9	6712.6	27938.8	1.3
B. North America	26015.4	26439.0	31339.5	39064.9	39542.8	162401.6	7.3
1.Canada	4234.0	4131.5	4728.5	3515.4	3880.3	20489.7	0.9
2.U S A	21781.4	22307.4	26611.0	35549.5	35662.5	141911.8	6.4
C. Asia and Oceania	19296.6	21413.6	25610.8	26534.7	22738.7	115594.4	5.2
Of which:							
1.Australia	8898.8	11154.5	13993.7	13131.2	9782.2	56960.4	2.6
2.Japan	9850.2	9754.6	10973.4	12772.7	12434.7	55785.6	2.5
D. Other O E C D Countries	20661.8	19022.8	21897.3	20842.3	19647.0	102071.2	4.6
Of which:						0.0	0.0
1.Switzerland	19299.5	17248.7	18923.0	18087.6	16899.7	90458.5	4.1
II.O P E C	90165.1	92541.8	109358.2	136548.7	123832.4	552446.2	24.9
Of which:							
1.Iran	6278.8	10506.5	11111.5	13525.6	1397.3	42819.7	1.9
2.Iraq	10837.6	11707.9	17615.8	22372.5	23740.2	86274.0	3.9
3.Kuwait	4969.7	4462.3	7165.7	7430.8	9573.8	33602.3	1.5
4.Saudi Arabia	20321.3	19972.4	22070.0	28479.2	26857.4	117700.3	5.3
5.U A E	19445.7	21509.8	21739.1	29785.3	30256.6	122736.5	5.5
III. Eastern Europe	7095.6	9329.3	12914.5	9465.6	11964.0	50769.0	2.3
Of which:							
1.Russia	4585.0	5552.3	8573.5	5840.4	7093.0	31644.2	1.4
IV. Developing Countries	164860.1	165750.0	207286.8	223040.7	204830.3	965767.9	43.5
A. Asia	132457.2	133351.8	165945.0	179905.5	168030.6	779690.1	35.1
a).S A A R C	2975.0	2813.4	3202.7	4363.0	3834.6	17188.7	0.8
1. Afghanistan	307.9	292.9	433.8	435.4	529.8	1999.8	0.1
2.Bangladesh	727.1	701.7	685.6	1044.8	1263.8	4423.0	0.2
3.Bhutan	281.3	307.8	378.0	371.0	405.7	1743.8	0.1
4.Maldives	4.3	9.2	5.7	20.4	6.0	45.6	0.0
5.Nepal	470.6	445.1	438.4	508.1	711.6	2573.8	0.1
6.Pakistan	441.0	454.5	488.6	494.9	14.0	1893.0	0.1
7.Sri Lanka	742.8	602.2	772.6	1488.4	903.7	4509.7	0.2
b). Other Asian Developing Countries	129482.2	130538.4	162742.3	175542.5	164196.0	762501.4	34.4
Of which:							
1.People's Republic of China	61708.0	61283.0	76380.7	70319.6	65259.4	334950.7	15.1
2.Hong Kong	6051.7	8204.2	10676.0	17987.0	16935.3	59854.2	2.7
3.South Korea	13047.1	12585.4	16361.8	16759.0	15659.7	74413.0	3.4
4.Malaysia	9083.8	8933.6	9011.6	10818.6	9782.3	47629.9	2.1
5.Singapore	7308.4	7086.6	7467.0	16281.6	14746.8	52890.4	2.4
6.Thailand	5510.2	5415.4	7134.5	7441.8	6788.4	32290.3	1.5
7.Indonesia	13131.9	13428.0	16438.8	15849.7	15061.9	73910.3	3.3
B. Africa	18643.0	17976.4	22673.0	24449.4	21795.6	105537.4	4.8
Of which:							
1.Benin	275.7	207.4	223.0	375.8	358.9	1440.8	0.1
2.Egypt Arab Republic	1221.2	1163.8	1292.9	1677.8	2031.4	7387.1	0.3
3.Kenya	127.5	104.4	72.6	137.1	89.6	531.2	0.0
4.South Africa	5948.4	5833.8	6834.7	6517.3	6969.8	32104.0	1.4
5.Sudan	149.2	245.1	452.1	742.6	396.8	1985.8	0.1
6.Tanzania	924.8	948.5	1029.7	903.5	1023.5	4830.0	0.2
7.Zambia	475.4	743.9	1095.0	510.5	843.3	3668.1	0.2
C. Latin American Countries	13759.9	14421.8	18668.9	18685.8	15004.2	80540.6	3.6
V. Others	265.3	127.8	98.3	58.1	108.0	657.5	0.0
VI. Unspecified	8709.6	7343.6	9194.6	89.7	123.1	25460.6	1.1

Total	381007.8	384357.0	465581.0	514078.4	473995.2	2219019.4	100.0
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CONCLUSION

Over the study period, it has been observed that total exports of India have increased after the adoption of New Economic policy in India. Although India is facing a continuous deficit in its balance of payment but the overall prosperity is unbounded. Despite fluctuations in GDP growth rate, the volume of trade is increasing day by day. The composition of India's exports has grown up significantly. The export of petroleum has shown a considerable increasing trend. The major portion of Indian exports is in manufactured goods. The composition of India's imports has also grown up significantly. It has also shown a positive and increasing trend during the period under study. The share of imports of petroleum and crude products and other non-bulk items have increased significantly while the imports of food grains and export-related items have declined. The study also indicates that post-liberalization era has certainly helped India in achieving high growth in the economy as there has been a rapid growth of imports of capital goods and technical raw materials to meet the requirement of industrialization and growing imports of petroleum products for meeting industrial and consumption requirement. It is also found that though import has a negative influence on economic growth, the volume of trade reflected by economic openness has a positive impact on the economic growth of India and its magnitude is increasing continuously.

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