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FOREWORD

I am delighted to share my thoughts with all exporters on the occasion of unveiling of the new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), 2023. As India is on the path to become a developed nation by 2047, the policy lays down a blueprint to integrate India with the global markets and make it a reliable and trusted trade partner. It calls for building a future-ready India and fulfills Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's strategic vision of making it one of the top exporting nations in the *Amrit Kaal*. Along with the recently launched National Logistics Policy, it will serve as a cornerstone to further improve India's trade performance and competitiveness.

The approach of this FTP is to gradually move away from the incentive based regime and create an enabling ecosystem to support the philosophy of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Local goes Global'. The focus on e-Commerce, District level export initiative, easing of guidelines to promote high technology exports, etc. is given additional emphasis in this FTP. This FTP also brings out the need for a collaborative partnership with State Governments to build and encourage export promotion at the district level through awareness, capacity building, outreach and infrastructure up-gradation. This will enable trade & industry to realize its true potential. India has been a bright spot in an otherwise volatile economic scenario globally. I encourage exporters to leverage the Indian growth story through deeper trade engagement and integration with the global markets.

Government led by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has undertaken several measures like opening new sectors for FDI, improving business environment, removing regulatory barriers, recognizing startups and introducing schemes like Production Linked Incentive Scheme to enhance production and productivity, attract investments and create jobs. As a result of its focused efforts, India achieved its highest ever exports of over USD 676 billion in 2021-22, well on the way to achieve USD 750 billion in 2022-23.

With the international trade landscape undergoing a significant change, Government of India is committed to make the country a significant partner in world trade with its inclusion in the global value chains. India has inked 13 Free Trade Agreements along with six limited-coverage Preferential Trade Agreements and is negotiating new trade agreements with the European Union, the UK, Canada and other countries on a fast-track basis. It is noteworthy that over the next five years, the Government plans to focus on introducing path breaking reforms to strengthen its relations with different countries, which will help in setting a robust foundation to achieve its strategic vision of becoming an export hub globally.

Piyush Goyal



