

# 2025



# GSP+

## PAKISTAN INSIGHTS

PARTNERS IN PROGRESS FOR THE FUTURE



Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Commerce  
Treaty Implementation Cell

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# GSP+ & PAKISTAN

## Overview

The EU Generalized Scheme of Preferences (GSP+) represents a constructive celebration of over eleven years of bilateral progress and trade engagement, contributing to the growth of Pakistan's economy and the advancement of its broader economic and social agenda. The scheme demonstrates a positive synergy with the government's commitment to inclusive and sustainable development.

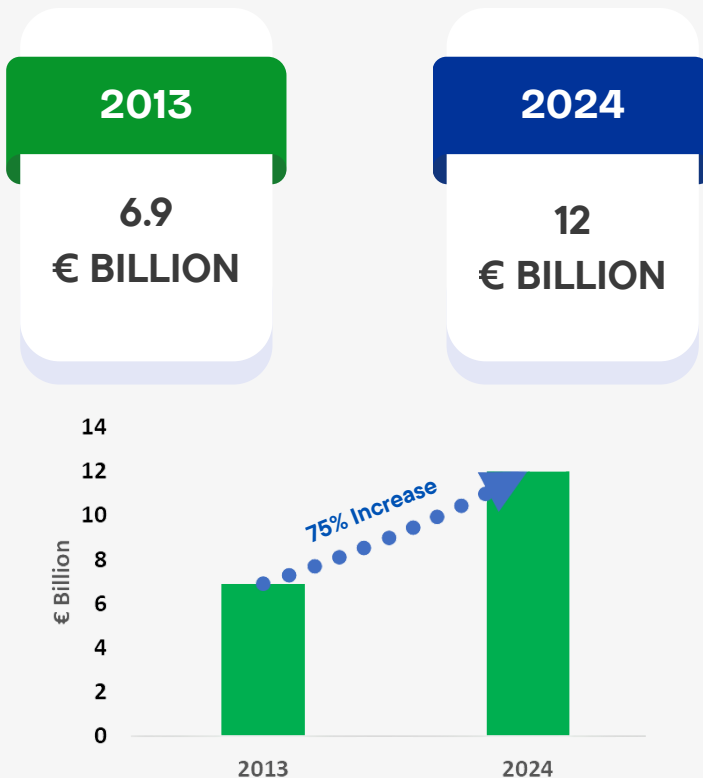
The European Union's Generalized Scheme of Preferences Plus (GSP+) is a distinctive arrangement offering extensive trade concessions to 08 developing countries, chosen on the basis of defined eligibility criteria. Its primary objective is to support these countries in aligning their national policies with the principles of sustainable development and good governance through the effective implementation of 27 United Nations conventions. These conventions encompass key areas such as human rights, labour rights, environmental protection, and good governance.

In December 2013, the European Parliament enacted legislation establishing the EU's GSP+ scheme for the period 2014–2023. Pakistan was included as one of the beneficiaries of the GSP+ trade concessions among 13 other countries at the time. In March 2014, the Prime Minister of Pakistan established the Treaty Implementation Cell (TIC) to undertake

efforts for aligning national laws with the mandatory UN conventions and to coordinate with all stakeholders at both federal and provincial levels to improve compliance with GSP+. The Attorney General for Pakistan serves as the Convener of the TIC.

GSP+ is a mutually beneficial arrangement that has led to a significant increase in exports for both Pakistan and the European Union. Total trade between the EU and Pakistan rose from €6.9 bn in 2013 to €12 bn in 2024, representing an overall increase of 75 percent.

### Total trade between the EU and Pakistan



Data Source: Eurostat





# Treaty Implementation Cell



# TREATY IMPLEMENTATION CELL PAKISTAN

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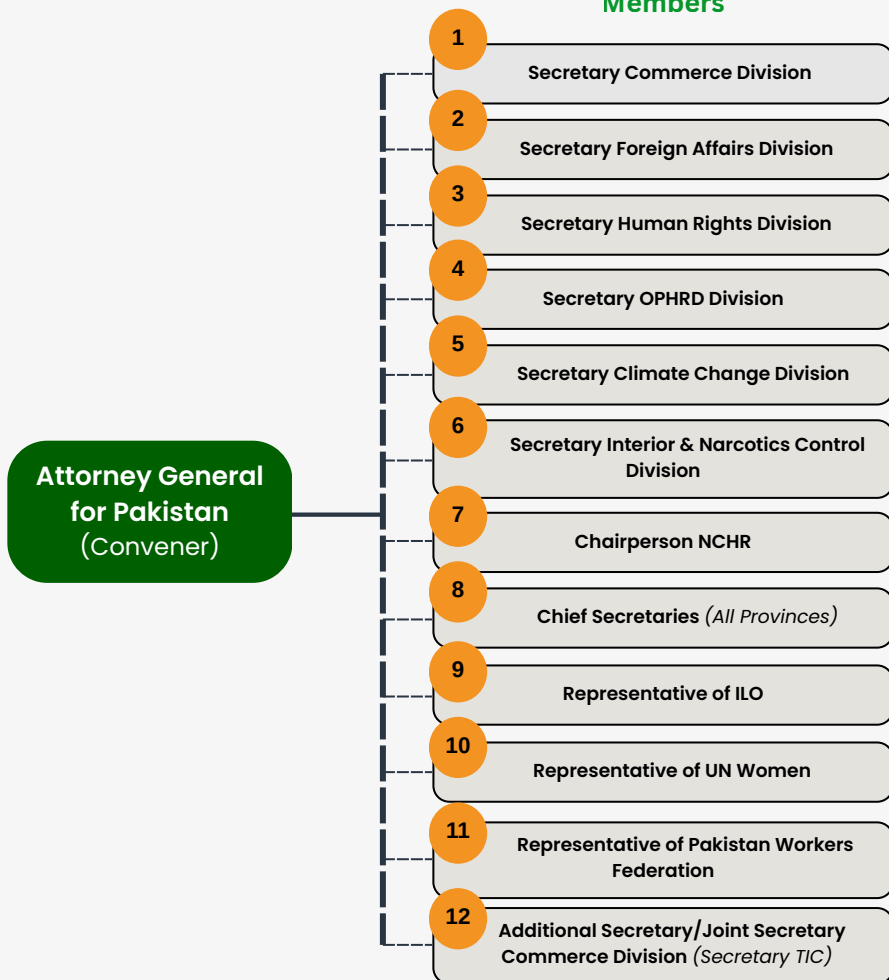


The Prime Minister established the Treaty Implementation Cell (TIC) on 4 March 2014 to oversee and monitor progress on the implementation of UN conventions. The Attorney General for Pakistan was appointed as the Convener of the TIC. Provincial TICs have also been constituted to ensure better coordination and monitoring of the implementation of UN conventions at the provincial level.

The dedicated Secretariat of the Treaty Implementation Cell (TIC) is housed within the Ministry of Commerce and located in Block A, Pakistan Secretariat, Islamabad.

## THE TIC COMPOSITION & STRUCTURE

### Members



Under TIC's mandate, an all inclusive and holistic body has been constituted under the Attorney General for Pakistan. TIC not only includes top-tier representatives from all relevant federal ministries and provincial governments and other stakeholders including the International Labour Organization, UN Women, as well as the Pakistan Workers Federation.

The continuous engagement of the Federal Treaty Implementation Cell with respective Ministries, Provincial Governments, Provincial Treaty Implementation Cells and other stakeholders has proved instrumental in fulfilling Pakistan's commitments under GSP+ scheme.

### **5th BIENNIAL REVIEW: Pakistan's High-Level Commitment to Ensuring Full GSP+ Compliance:**

Pakistan has demonstrated strong political ownership of the GSP+ process at the highest levels of government. Ministry of Commerce being Secretariat of Treaty Implementation Cell (TIC) headed by Attorney General for Pakistan, deputes a dedicated team collaborating with stakeholders to identify and address Cluster-wise gaps within the domestic legal framework. Prime Minister of Pakistan (PM) personally chairs high-level review meetings on GSP+ and issues strategic directions on EU-identified priority areas. Besides his personal supervision, PM has established various Implementation Committees chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister and Minister for Commerce that have been meeting regularly to review progress and expedite implementation of the Conventions. The Deputy Prime Minister subsequently led a follow-up meeting to accelerate implementation and provided further directives in line with the Prime Minister's guidance. A Sub-Committee chaired by the Minister for Law & Justice and Human Rights has also been constituted to monitor and fast-track progress on pending legislation, reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to meeting all GSP+ obligations.

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



**GSP+: Driving Pakistan's Development at Home  
and Advancing Its Global Commitments**

# HUMAN RIGHTS

## 2022- 2025

# Legislative & Policy Reforms

## Policy for Interfaith Harmony & Strategy for Religious Tolerance

The GoP has approved the Policy for Interfaith Harmony and the Strategy for Religious Tolerance across Pakistan, aimed at promoting mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and ensuring the protection of minority rights nationwide.

1

## ICT Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2025

The GoP has passed the Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2025, to curb child marriages below 18 years for both genders across the ICT.

2

## Reduction in Scope of Death Penalty under PPC, CNS Act, and Railways Act

The GoP enacted the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2025, reducing the scope under Sections 354-A (*Assault or use of criminal force to woman and stripping her of her clothes*) and 402-C (*Punishment for harbouring hijacking*) of the PPC, continuing reforms initiated in 2023 under the CNS Act, 1997 and Railways Act, 1890.

3

## Rules under the Torture & Custodial Death (Prevention and Punishment) Act, 2022

The GoP has notified the Rules under the Torture & Custodial Death Act 2022 to ensure effective implementation, strengthen accountability, safeguard detainees' rights, and align national laws with international human rights standards.

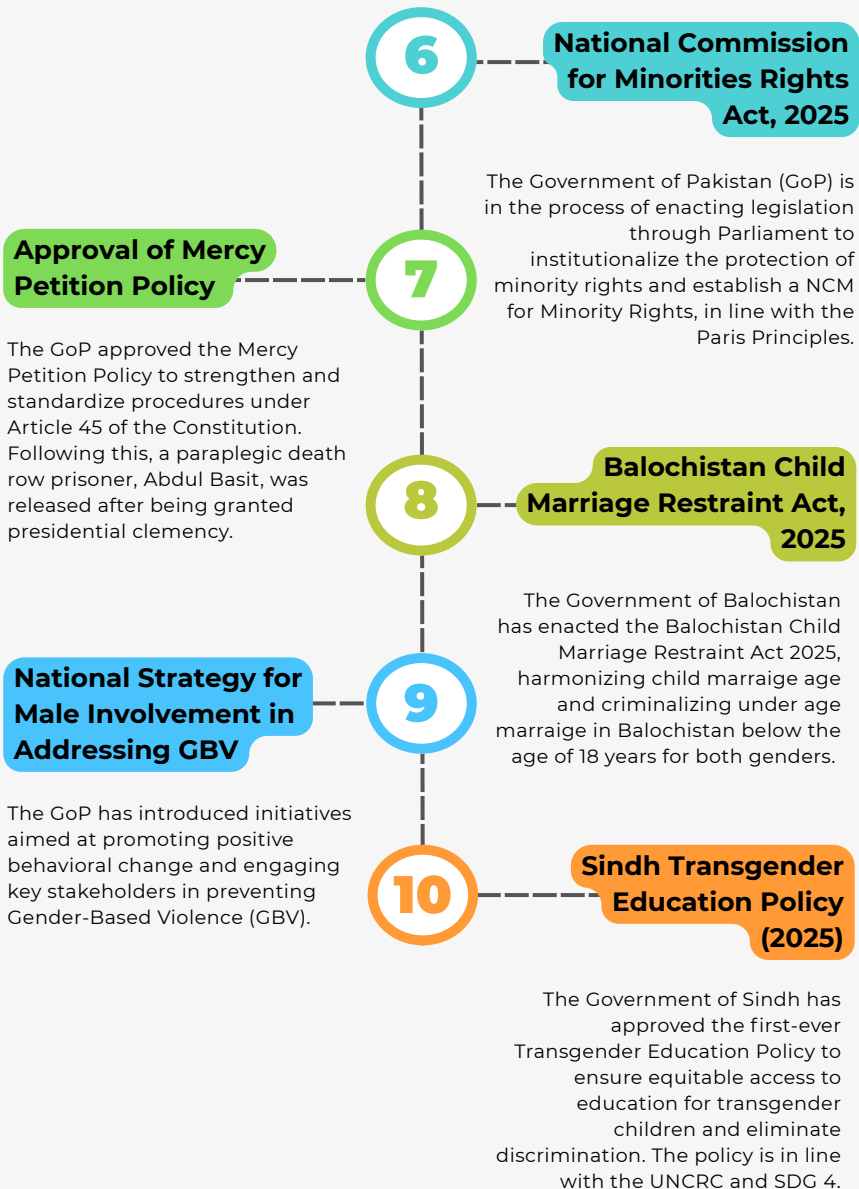
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## Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Bill

All the provinces have enacted respective domestic violence legislation. The National Assembly also has passed the "Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Bill 2025".

5

# Legislative & Policy Reforms





**Balochistan Protection  
Against Harassment of  
Women at the  
Workplace  
(Amendment) Act, 2025,**

11

The Government of Balochistan passed the Amendment Act 2025, providing protection to the women at their workplace from harassment. It is a significant step towards ensuring a safe and inclusive environment for working women in the province.

12

**Formulation of the  
Child Protection Policy  
of Punjab**

The Government of Punjab has approved the Child Protection Policy for child welfare, marking a transformative step toward ending violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect against children in the communities across Punjab.

**Punjab Sikh Anand  
Karaj Marriage  
(Registrar) Rules  
2024**

13

The Government of Punjab enacted the Punjab Sikh Anand Karaj Marriage Act 2018, along with the notification of the Punjab Sikh Anand Karaj Marriage (Registrar) Rules 2024.

14

**Punjab Christian  
Marriage Rules 2023  
& Christian Divorce  
Rules 2024**

The Government of Punjab framed the Punjab Christian Marriage Rules 2023 & Christian Divorce Rules 2024.

**Punjab Sikh Anand  
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15

The Government of Punjab enacted the Punjab Sikh Anand Karaj Marriage Act 2018, along with the notification of the Punjab Sikh Anand Karaj Marriage (Registrar) Rules 2024.

## Legislative & Policy Reforms

16

### Punjab Christian Marriage Rules 2023 & Christian Divorce Rules 2024

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17

### Balochistan Women Economic Empowerment Policy 2024

The Government of Balochistan has approved the policy, focused on women's economic empowerment through initiatives including skill training, business development centers, and gender-based violence prevention.

18

### Sindh Human Rights Policy (2023-2025)

Sindh Human Rights Policy focuses on the promotion, protection and fulfillment of human rights in compliance with the Fundamental Rights enshrined in the Constitution of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, core United Nations human rights treaties ratified by Pakistan and other international obligations under SDGs.

19

### Christian Marriage (Amendment) Act 2024

The GoP has enacted the Christian Marriage (Amendment) Act, which aims to raise the minimum age of marriage for both genders of Christian community.

# Institutional Strengthening & Initiatives

## Election of Pakistan to the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)

Pakistan has been elected to the UNHRC for the 2026–2028 term, reaffirming international confidence in its commitment to human rights and multilateral diplomacy.



## A-Status Accreditation of National Commission for Human Rights (NCHR) by GANHRI

The NCHR received A-status accreditation from GANHRI, confirming compliance with the UN Paris Principles, and its chairperson was elected to the GANHRI Bureau.



## Approval of Mercy Petition of Abdul Basit under Article 45 of the Constitution

The President of Pakistan approved the mercy petition of Abdul Basit. This decision reflects Pakistan's commitment to upholding humanitarian considerations and aligning with international human rights.



## Establishment of National Commission for the Protection of Journalists & Media Professionals

The GoP has established the National Commission for the Protection of Journalists & Media Professionals in line with the provisions of National Commission for the Protection of Journalists & Media Professionals Act 2021.



## National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF)

The GoP has established NMRF for the implementation of international human rights conventions across the country. The Executive Committee of NMRF has been notified. NMRF is fully functional as per OHCHR guidelines.



# Institutional Strengthening & Initiatives

## Acquittal of a 74-Year-Old Christian Citizen in a Blasphemy Case

The Supreme Court of Pakistan acquitted a Christian citizen due to lack of evidence, reinforcing judicial commitment to justice, minority rights, and prevention of misuse of blasphemy laws.



## National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP-BHR)

The GoP implemented the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP-BHR), focusing on human rights due diligence in business operations and the protection of vulnerable workers.



## District Human Rights & Interfaith Harmony Committees

The Provincial Government (KP & Punjab) has established District Human Rights & Interfaith Harmony Committees across the province to address rights violations.



## Punjab Journalist Protection Coordination Committee

The Government of Punjab established the Committee to ensure effective coordination between the police and journalists for safeguarding the rights and safety of media professionals.



## Punjab Police Meesaq Centers

The Government of Punjab established Centers in districts and sub-divisions to ensure minority protection and peaceful dispute resolution.



# Institutional Strengthening & Initiatives

11

## Virtual Women Police Station

The Government of Punjab has established the Virtual Women Police Station to enable women to seek assistance and report cases safely and efficiently.

12

## Working Women Hostels

The Government of Punjab established 16 Working Women Hostels across 12 districts to provide safe accommodation for women employees.

13

## Empowering Women through IT Training Project (2025)

The Government of Punjab launched the Project with an allocation of Rs. 1 bn, focusing 27,000 women to promote digital literacy and economic inclusion.

14

## Zevar-e-Taleem Program

The Government of Punjab implemented the Zevar-e-Taleem Program, providing monthly cash grant Rs. 1,000 to schoolgirls in 16 districts to promote female education retention.

15

## Rehabilitation of Jaranwala Incident Victims

The Government of Punjab allocated Rs. 126.49 million for the rehabilitation of Jaranwala incident victims (Faisalabad, 2023), restoring 22 churches and community facilities affected by the tragedy.

16

## Minority Card Scheme

The Government of Punjab launched the Minority Card Scheme, benefiting 50,000 families with quarterly assistance of Rs. 10,500 and an annual allocation of Rs. 1.4 bn.

# Institutional Strengthening & Initiatives

## Child Protection Court (CPC)

The Government of Punjab established the Child Protection Court (CPC) under the Punjab Destitute and Neglected Children Act 2004 to safeguard the best interests of children.

17

## Schools Meal Program

The Government of Punjab launched the Schools Meal Program with an allocation of Rs. 1 bn to improve nutrition among schoolchildren.

18

## Child Protection Helpline (1121)

The Government of Punjab operationalized the Child Helpline (1121) for rapid response to child abuse and exploitation cases.

19

## Punjab Socio-Economic Registry (PSER)

The Government of Punjab initiated the Punjab Socio-Economic Registry (PSER) with an allocation of Rs. 9.5 billion to enhance data-driven social protection and strengthen social safety targeting, with completion expected by June 2029.

20

## CM Himmat Card Program

The Government of Punjab launched the CM Himmat Card Program for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) with an allocation of Rs. 2 bn, aimed at providing financial and social support.

21

## Sindh Child Protection Helpline (1121)

The Government of Sindh established the Helpline in 2024 to address child abuse, violence, and exploitation.

22

# Institutional Strengthening & Initiatives

23

## Directorate of Inclusive Education (2024)

The Government of Sindh established the Directorate of Inclusive Education (2024) under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities to ensure inclusive education for children with autism and learning disabilities.

## People's Pink Bus Service for Women (2023)

The Government of Sindh launched the People's Pink Bus Service for Women (2023) with 28 buses in Karachi, providing safe and affordable transport exclusively for women and girls.

24

25

## Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS)

The Government of Sindh developed the CPIMS to connect all 30 districts with the provincial headquarters for real-time tracking of child protection cases, enabling timely interventions, with over 2,427 cases recorded to date.

## Mother and Child Support Programme (MCSP)

The Government of Sindh implemented the MCSP, providing conditional cash transfers of Rs. 30,000 to pregnant women and mothers of children under two years to promote maternal, newborn, and child healthcare throughout the continuum of care.

26

27

## CM KP Gender Parity 2025 Initiative

The Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has constituted a Gender Equality Task Team under the CM KP Gender Parity 2025 Initiative to promote gender equality across the province.

## Establishment of Human Rights Department

The Government of Balochistan notified a dedicated Human Rights Department to strengthen the protection and promotion of human rights.

28

# Institutional Strengthening & Initiatives

## Forums to strengthen Child Protection across KP

The Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has strengthened child protection mechanisms through multiple operational forums, including:

- Two Child Protection Courts
- Eight Juvenile Courts
- District Child Protection Committees, led by Deputy Commissioners
- Child Protection Management Information System (CPMIS)



## BOLO Helpline for the Victims of Gender based Violence in KP

The Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Bolo Helpline aims to provide accessible response services to survivors of GBV across the province. The services include psychological counselling, legal aid, police protection, and medical assistance, ensuring comprehensive support.

## Development of Center of Excellence for Disability Inclusion

The Government of Sindh through its Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPD), in collaboration with Network of Organizations Working for Persons with Disabilities (NOWPDP) has inaugurated the Center of Excellence for Disability Inclusion in Korangi, Karachi.



## Sindh Peoples Housing for Flood Affectees

The Government of Sindh has undertaken a housing reconstruction program to rebuild 2.1 million houses affected by the 2022 floods. Six hundred thousand houses have already been reconstructed, and the remaining units are currently under construction.

## EU Huqooq-e-Pakistan Phase 2

The GoP in collaboration with the EU, is implementing the Project Huqooq-e-Pakistan II (2024–2028) to strengthen Pakistan's human rights framework. The project focuses on enhancing NHRI monitoring and protection, digitization and upgradation of complaint redressal systems.





# LABOUR RIGHTS

## 2022-2025

# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES

## CHILD LABOUR SURVEYS & ACTION PLANS



### ISLAMABAD CAPITAL TERRITORY (ICT)

**Survey:** Published 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**Action Plan:** Notified



### PUNJAB

**Survey:** Published 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022

**Action Plan:** Notified



### SINDH

**Survey:** Published 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

**Action Plan:** Notified



### BALUCHISTAN

**Survey:** Published 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**Action Plan:** Notified



### KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA (KPK)

**Survey:** Published 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Action Plan:** Notified



### GILGIT BALTISTAN (GB)

**Survey:** Published 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021

**Action Plan:** Approved by the Cabinet

# Legislative & Policy Reforms

01

## **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Factories Rules, 2023**

The Government of KP has enacted these Rules which set the operational health, safety, welfare, and compliance standards that factories in KP must follow.

02

## **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Workers' Compensation Rules 2024**

The Government of KP has enacted these rules which establish the procedure and criteria for compensating workers injured, disabled, or killed in the course of employment in KP.

03

## **Amendments to Sindh Factories Act, 2015 & Sindh Shops & Commercial Establishment Act 2015**

The Government of Sindh has passed amendments to allow female workers to work in night shifts, and suitable washing facilities

04

## **Balochistan Labour Rules 2025**

The Government of Balochistan has notified six major rules, covering factories, shops, bonded labour abolition, minimum wages, and home-based workers. These rules would support the effective implementation of key acts passed earlier.

05

## **KP Occupational Safety and Health Act 2022**

The Government of KP by enactment of the legislation provides comprehensive protection for workers' health and safety. Rules are being finalized to operationalize the act.

06

## **Anti- Discrimination Clauses in Labour Law**

The Government of Sindh has inserted Anti-discrimination clauses in all labour laws to prohibit discrimination based on sex, religion, political affiliation, sect, colour, caste, creed, or ethnic background.

# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES

## → Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining Rights Fully Secured in EPZs

The Government has withdrawn the exemption limiting the application of the Industrial Relations Ordinance, 1969 in EPZs. This allows full Freedom of Association and Collective Bargaining rights for all EPZ workers, reflecting a significant advancement in labour protections and alignment with ILO standards.

## → Labour Market Information System (LMIS)/Labour Inspection Management System (LIMS)

Punjab, Sindh, Balochistan, and KP have developed LIMS/LMIS to enable real-time, geo-tagged inspections, improving transparency and accountability.

## → Evidence-Based Action through Child Labour Surveys

Completion of Child Labour Surveys in Sindh, KP, Balochistan, Punjab and GB has provided data-driven foundations for targeted interventions and future policy design, with an action plan now underway to implement the findings effectively.

## → Punjab: Rehabilitation Centers for Child Labour

Establishment of rehabilitation centers for disengaged child labour (providing educational, technical, health, and reintegration services) planned in 12 districts with high prevalence of child labour through an Annual Development Plan (ADP) Scheme.

## → Sindh: Launch of Kisan Card Program

The Kisan Card will be issued to farmers who own and cultivate landholdings of up to 12 hectares. This targeted approach ensures that small farmers receive the direct support they need, promoting more equitable distribution of resources.

# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES



## KP: SOPs for Trafficking Victim Identification

The Labour Department designed SOPs for inspection teams to follow during inspections under "The Prevention of Trafficking in Person Act, 2018, providing guidelines for victim identification, protection, referral, and support.



## Sindh: SOPs for Bonded/Child Labour

SOPs for Victim Identification, Protection, Referral, and Support for Trafficking in Person (Bonded & Child Labour) have been formally notified by the Labour & HR Department.



## Sindh: Bonded Labour Project

Undertaken to implement the Bonded Labour Act 2015 and Prohibition of Employment of Children Act 2017, focusing on developing community-based monitoring and remedial mechanisms.



## KP: OSH Center Establishment

The ADP Scheme titled "Establishment of Center for Occupational Safety and Health in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa," initiated in 2017, is revised until 2027 to continue improving OSH standards.



## KP: Child & Bonded Labour Unit (C&BLU)

Established to address and eliminate child and bonded labour in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa the C&BLU works to enforce labour laws and raise awareness.

# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES



## **Sindh: Endowment Fund for Agricultural Workers**

Rs. 500 million has been allocated for an Endowment Fund under the Sindh Women Agricultural Workers Act 2019, through which agricultural workers will be registered with social protection institutions (EOBI and SESSI).



## **Balochistan: Provincial OSH Council**

Notified in March 2025, serving as a central body for policy guidance and direction on OSH matters.



## **Balochistan Training Workshops**

Fifteen training workshops have been organized in Quetta, focusing on labour employees, workers, and employers, covering technical skills development, legal rights, OSH, gender equality, and the elimination of forced and bonded labour.



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## **Punjab: Rehabilitation Centers for Child Labour**

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# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES



## KP: Workers Education Wing

This specialized wing regularly arranges awareness-raising sessions for workers and employers on provincial labour laws, bonded and forced labour, gender equality, maternity benefits, and health and safety.



## KP: Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Coordination Committee on Child Labour (KPCCCL) Workers Education Wing

Constituted in November 2024 as the highest provincial forum to advise the Government on legislative, administrative, and other measures for the eradication of child labour.



## Sindh: Online Registration of Establishments

Under "Doing Business Reforms," registration of all shops, factories, and establishments is being conducted online.



## Punjab: Enforcement Directions to District Vigilance Committees

DVCs have been notified in all 36 districts of Punjab and are holding regular meetings as provided under the Punjab Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1992.



## Balochistan Procurement of OSH Equipment & Mobile Units

Allocation under the Public Sector Development Programme (PSDP) for 2024- 25 for the procurement of OSH equipment and mobile inspection units to strengthen enforcement

# CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT 2022-2025



# POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT

1

## Climate Change Authority

The Authority established under the Pakistan Climate Change Act 2017 is being operationalized. The Authority is mandated to develop policies and projects, assess technological needs, and mobilize resources to combat climate change effectively.

2

## Pakistan Climate Change Fund

The Government of Pakistan is establishing the "Pakistan Climate Change Fund" under Section 12 of the Climate Change Act 2017. This fund aims to support and finance climate action initiatives across the country.

3

## Clean and Healthy Environment

Pakistan introduced the right to a clean and healthy environment through the 26th Amendment to its Constitution, which added Article 9A, stating, "Every person shall be entitled to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment".

4

## Nationally Determined Contributions

The GoP has submitted its updated NDC 3.0 to the UNFCCC. Pakistan aims to voluntarily reduce GHG emissions by 50% by 2035, with 17% to be achieved through domestic efforts and the remaining 33% dependent on adequate international climate finance and technology transfer.

5

## Ratification of the Kigali Amendment

Pakistan has ratified the Kigali Amendment, reinforcing its commitment to global efforts to phase down hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). This ratification marks a significant milestone, enabling the country to transition toward climate-friendly solutions in alignment with international obligations.

## Clean Air Policy 2023

6

The GoP has introduced the Clean Air Policy 2023 to address deteriorating air quality through strengthened regulatory frameworks, improved monitoring systems, and coordinated actions across sectors. The policy underscores the government's commitment to safeguarding public health.

7

## Action Plan for the NHWMP-2022

In 2023, the MoCC&EC released the Action Plan for the Implementation of the National Hazardous Waste Management Policy (NHWMP), 2022, establishing a structured pathway to regulate hazardous waste from classification and licensing.

## Early Warning Systems

8

In collaboration with UNDP, the Ministry has initiated the installation of Early Warning Systems in 24 climate-vulnerable valleys of Gilgit-Baltistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to strengthen community preparedness and climate resilience.

9

## Sustainability Council

Ministry of Commerce has notified Sustainability Council to promote the imperative of Trade & Environment with a focus on Textile Sector. The council is being steered by the private sector and mandated to provide policy recommendations.

## GHG inventories

10

Pakistan has commenced the development of national GHG inventories through MoCC&EC. Inventories for the year 2023–2024 have been successfully prepared in line with IPCC guidelines to ensure transparency and accuracy.

# POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT

11

## Review of IEE & EIA Regulations 2022

The Government of Punjab has reviewed the Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) & Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2022 with the objective of refining assessment processes and elevating environmental standards. This review underscores the commitment to regulatory efficiency.

12

## Smog Prevention & Control Rules 2023

The Government of Punjab has implemented the Smog Prevention & Control Rules 2023 to reinforce its commitment to cleaner air and sustainable environmental management. These rules provide clear directives for reducing smog, regulating emissions, and improving public health outcomes.

13

## Single-Use Plastic Regulation 2023

The Government of Punjab has implemented this Regulation to advance waste reduction and sustainable resource management. The framework bans thin polythene below 75 µm and reinforced through enforcement mechanisms and awareness campaigns.

14

## Clean Air Policy & Action Plan 2023

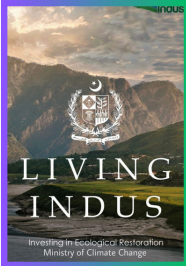
The Government of Punjab has developed the Policy & Action Plan to pursue strategic, coordinated, and science-driven measures for air quality improvement. The initiative reinforces regulatory compliance, promotes technological solutions, and supports long-term environmental resilience.

15

## Plastic Management Strategy 2024

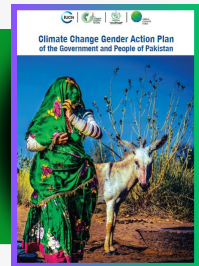
The Government of Punjab has developed a management strategy to advance a comprehensive approach to plastic reduction. The framework includes 22 strategic targets spanning immediate to long-term actions, emphasizing recycling expansion and innovation.

# CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL



In 2022, Pakistan launched the Living Indus Initiative, a flagship program aims to restore the ecological health of the Indus Basin while promoting climate resilience, sustainable livelihoods, and biodiversity conservation.

Pakistan's first Climate Change Gender Action Plan was launched by MoCC in 2022. It emphasizes women's leadership and participation in building resilience across agriculture, biodiversity, water, energy, and disaster risk management.

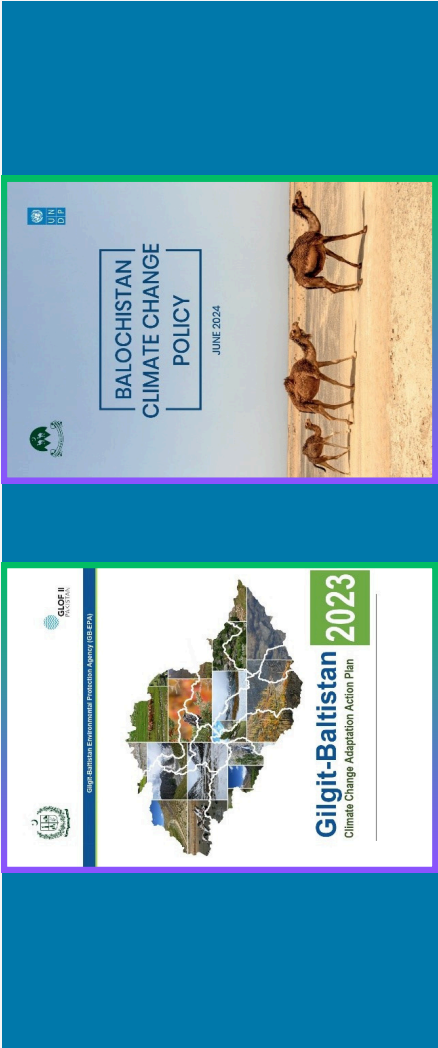


In July 2023, Pakistan adopted its first-ever National Adaptation Plan, laying out a comprehensive framework to build climate resilience across vulnerable sectors while mobilizing adaptation finance.

In December 2024, Pakistan launched its first-ever Pakistan Policy Guidelines for Trading in Carbon Markets. The guidelines aim to attract green investment, ensure transparency, and strengthen Pakistan's role in global carbon markets.



# CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS AT THE PROVINCIAL LEVEL



# GOVERNANCE

## 2022-2025

# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES

01

## **Abolishment of Death Penalty Provision from Control of Narcotic Substances act 1997**

The GoP has abolished the death penalty for drug-related offences in 2023 by amending the Control of Narcotics Substances Act, 1997.

02

## **Cannabis Control Regulatory Authority Ordinance 2024**

With the promulgation of Cannabis Control Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2024, the Authority has been formally established to regulate the cultivation, production, and use of cannabis for medical and industrial purposes.

03

## **National Counter Narcotics Coordination Center**

The establishment of the National Counter Narcotics Coordination Center is an initiative of the GoP with the aim to provide an overarching inter-agency cooperation mechanism to strengthen Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) by enhancing their coordination to effectively interdict illicit drug trafficking.

04

## **Enhanced Counter Narcotics Law Enforcement through Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF)**

The IATF, comprising 32 law enforcement agencies (LEAs) is a collaborative initiative for counter-narcotics in Pakistan. While being housed at the ANF Headquarters the financial, administrative, and secretarial support is provided by the ANF.

05

## **Model Addiction Treatment & Rehabilitation & Reintegration Centers (MATRCs) for Drug Addicts**

The Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF) has established 07 dedicated 'Model Addiction Treatment, Rehabilitation and Reintegration Centers (MATRCs) across Pakistan with a vision to provide free and specialized treatment and rehabilitation services to drug users.

# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES

## Initiation of Opioid Agonist Management Therapy (OAMT)

The Opioid Agonist Management Therapy (OAMT) has been initiated as a health-based approach to address drug addiction, with the support of the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination and UNAIDS.

06

## Inauguration of Al-Nisa Secretariat at ANF HQ

With a vision to bolster the objectives of 'ANF Gender Strategy & Action Plan 2022-2027', the ANF established the Al-Nisa Secretariat on the occasion of the 'International Women's Day 2023'.

07

## Government of Pakistan supports the UNODC Country Programme (2022-25)

The GoP is actively engaging with the UNODC in the implementation of the third-phase of its Country Programme (2022-25) that focuses on four thematic areas including the 'Drug Demand Reduction', 'Transnational Organized and Border Management', 'Criminal Justice & Legal Reforms', and 'Preventing and Countering Terrorism'.

08

## Narcotics Offenders' Sentences Reform

The Government of Punjab commuted the death sentences of six offenders to life imprisonment following the removal of the death penalty for drug-related offences under the Control of Narcotics Substances Act, 1997.

09

## Punjab Control of Narcotics Substances Act (2025)

The Government of Punjab after Provincial Cabinet approval, has enacted the Punjab Control of Narcotics Substances Act 2025 to strengthen narcotics control law enforcement in Punjab.

10



# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES



11

## **Punjab Narcotics Control Policy (PNCP)**

The Government of Punjab initiated the development of the Punjab Narcotics Control Policy in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders to strengthen enforcement, prevention, and rehabilitation measures.

12

## **Punjab Counter Narcotics Force (CNF)**

The Government of Punjab established the Counter Narcotics Force under the Excise, Taxation & Narcotics Control Department with headquarters and Narcotics Control Stations in Lahore, Rawalpindi, and Multan.

**SAY  
NO TO  
DRUGS**

# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES

## **Whistleblower Protection**

The Whistleblower Protection & Vigilance Commission Bill, 2025 has been approved by the Senate Standing Committee on Law and Justice, marking a significant step toward institutionalizing transparency and accountability.

## **Pakistan Anti Corruption Academy (PACA)**

A state of the art anti-corruption academy has been established to train law enforcement officers in financial crime investigation and prosecution, conduct research to improve anti-corruption efforts and plan to collaborate with other academies for knowledge sharing and degree accreditation.

## **Establishment of Facilitation Cells in NAB's Operations**

Facilitation Cells, including Accountability Facilitation Cells (AFCs) and Business Facilitation Desks (BFCs), have been established to enhance the trust of public office holders and the business community. These support prompt resolution of complaints and ensure a conducive environment without undue intervention by NAB.

## **National Anti Money Laundering & Counter Financing of Terrorism Authority Act 2023**

The GoP has enacted the Act and is in process of establishing the National AML& CFT Authority as per the provisions of the law to strengthen the national response against ML & CFT.

# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES

## **Removal of Pakistan from Financial Action Task Force (FATF) 'Grey List'**

Pakistan's removal from the FATF Grey List marks a major achievement showcasing strengthened Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terror Financing (AML/CFT) frameworks.

## **Removal from EU 'High Risk Third Countries' List**

Pakistan's removal from the EU 'High Risk Third Countries' List in 2023 is in line with the FATF's decision of removal of Pakistan from the 'Grey List' in 2022.

## **Anti-Corruption Complaint Management System (ACCMS)**

The Government of Punjab developed a digital complaint management software with PITB, enabling recordkeeping of 269,493 complaints, 101,043 enquiries, and 26,283 cases for improved transparency and accountability.

## **Case Flow Digitization in Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE) Punjab**

The Government of Punjab is consolidating anti-corruption laws and digitizing the case flow management system to ensure efficient case tracking and monitoring.

# INITIATIVES TAKEN TO SUPPORT GSP+ COMPLIANCES

## **Report Corruption Application**

The Government of Punjab launched the “Report Corruption” mobile application to facilitate public reporting and digital tracking of corruption-related complaints.

## **Punjab Anti-Corruption Helpline (1350)**

The Government of Punjab operationalized a dedicated helpline (1350) to facilitate public reporting of corruption and ensure swift action through accessible grievance redressal channels.

## **Chief Minister’s Complaint Helpline Project**

The Government of Punjab launched the “Establishment of CM Complaint Helpline” with an allocation of Rs. 400 million to strengthen citizen engagement and promote transparent, responsive governance.

## **Anti-Corruption Reforms in Sindh**

The Government of Sindh has established a multilingual Complaint Management System and introduced QR codes on official documents to facilitate quick complaint registration, document verification, and whistleblower anonymity.



# **ECONOMIC GAINS UNDER THE GSP+**



# Pakistan-EU Trade Overview



Pakistan enjoyed duty-free access to the European Union during the period 2002–2004 as one of the countries recognised for its efforts in combating the menace of narcotics. During this period, Pakistan's exports to the EU grew by 13 percent.

From 2005 to 2013, Pakistan was a beneficiary under the Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) scheme. During this time, Pakistani goods had preferential market access, receiving the same concessions extended to other developing countries. As a result, Pakistan's exports to the EU increased by 48 percent.

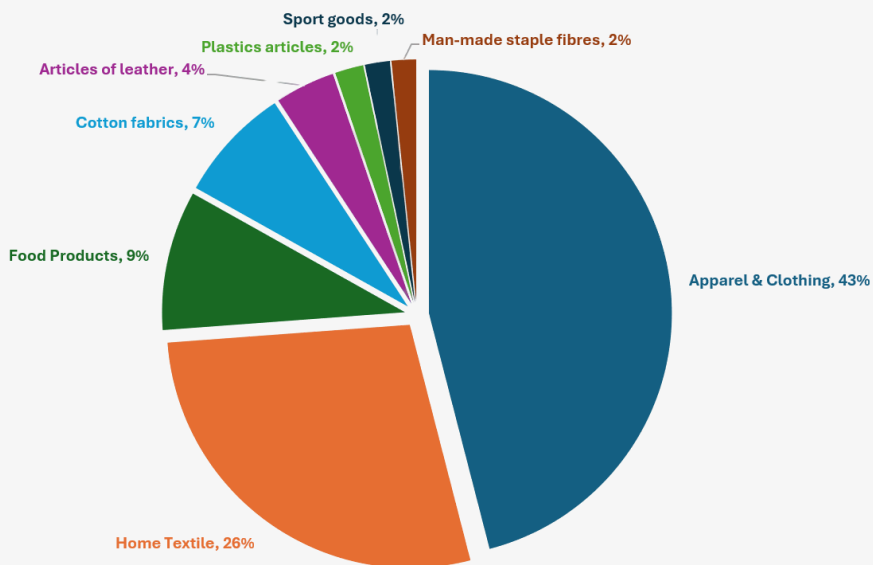
In 2010, when Pakistan suffered a severe setback due to devastating floods, the EU announced a special relief package known as the Autonomous Trade Preferences (ATPs). This provided duty-free concessions on 75 products and came into effect after a WTO waiver, remaining valid for fourteen months.

The current GSP+ scheme, which became operational on the 1st January 2014, has provided a level playing field for Pakistani exports in the EU market vis-à-vis other developing economies in similar circumstances.

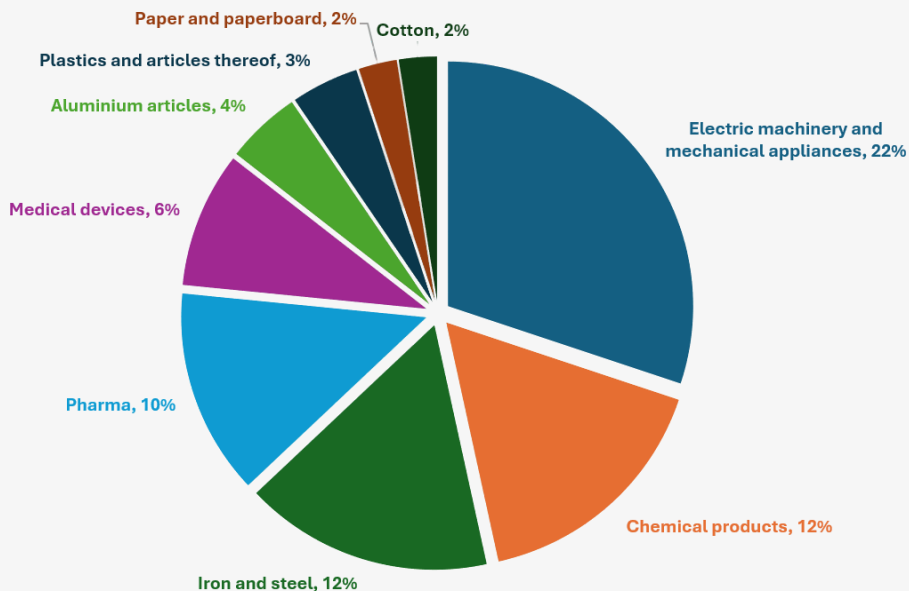
As a result of GSP+, Pakistan's exports to the EU increased from €3.56 bn in 2013 to €8.33 bn in 2024, marking an 134% rise. Likewise, Pakistan's imports from EU member states grew from €3.31 bn in 2013 to €3.68 bn in 2024, reflecting a 11% increase.

The GSP+ arrangement has significantly strengthened bilateral trade between the European Union and Pakistan. EU exports to Pakistan, despite variations, remained higher than the 2014 levels and reached their highest level of EUR 5.54 billion.

## Pakistan's Export Composition to EU 2024

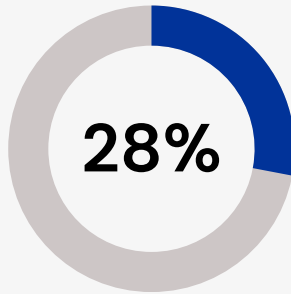


## Pakistan Import Composition from EU 2024

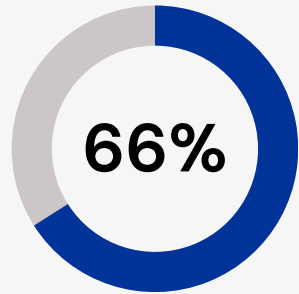


# BILATERAL TRADE

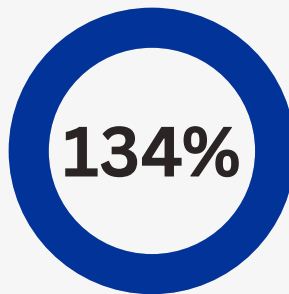
## PAKISTAN'S EXPORTS TO EU



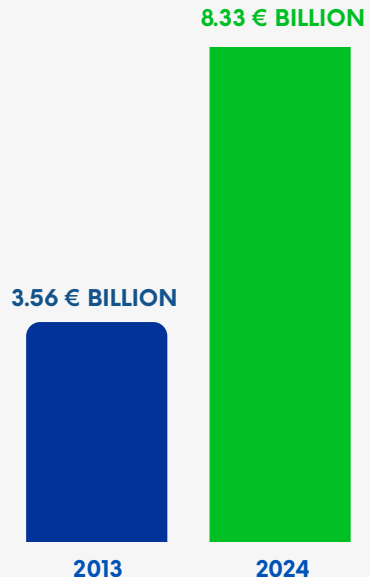
**28% OF PAKISTAN'S  
TOTAL EXPORTS  
ARE TO EU**



**UNDER GSP+  
PAKISTANI GOODS  
HAVE DUTY FREE  
ACCESS ON 66% OF  
EU TARIFF LINES**



**EXPORTS GREW  
FROM €3.56 BN IN  
2013 TO €8.33 BN IN  
2024**





# Pakistan's Leading Export Destinations in the EU

*(Based on Export Vol.)*



**Germany**

1,857  
€ Million



**Spain**

1,342  
€ Million



**The Netherlands**

1098  
€ Million



**Italy**

1026  
€ Million



**France**

674  
€ Million



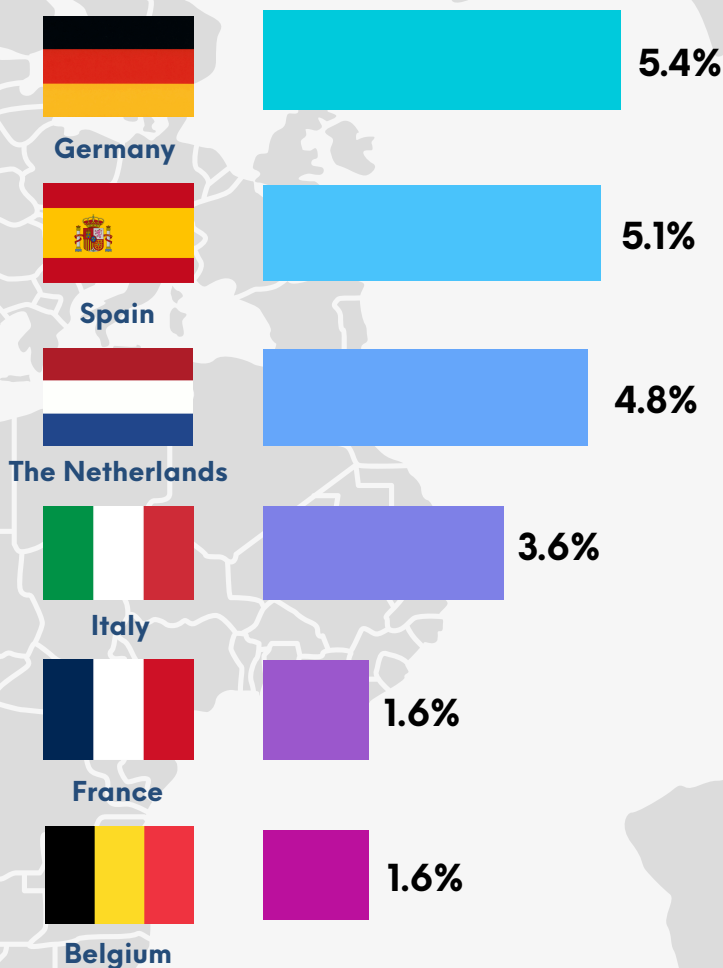
**Belgium**

497  
€ Million

Data Source: Eurostat

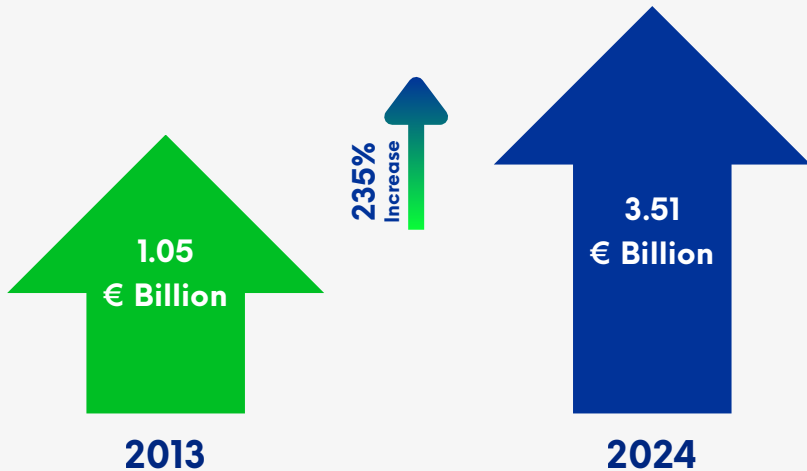
# Pakistan's Leading Export Destinations in the EU

*(Based on Export Share)*



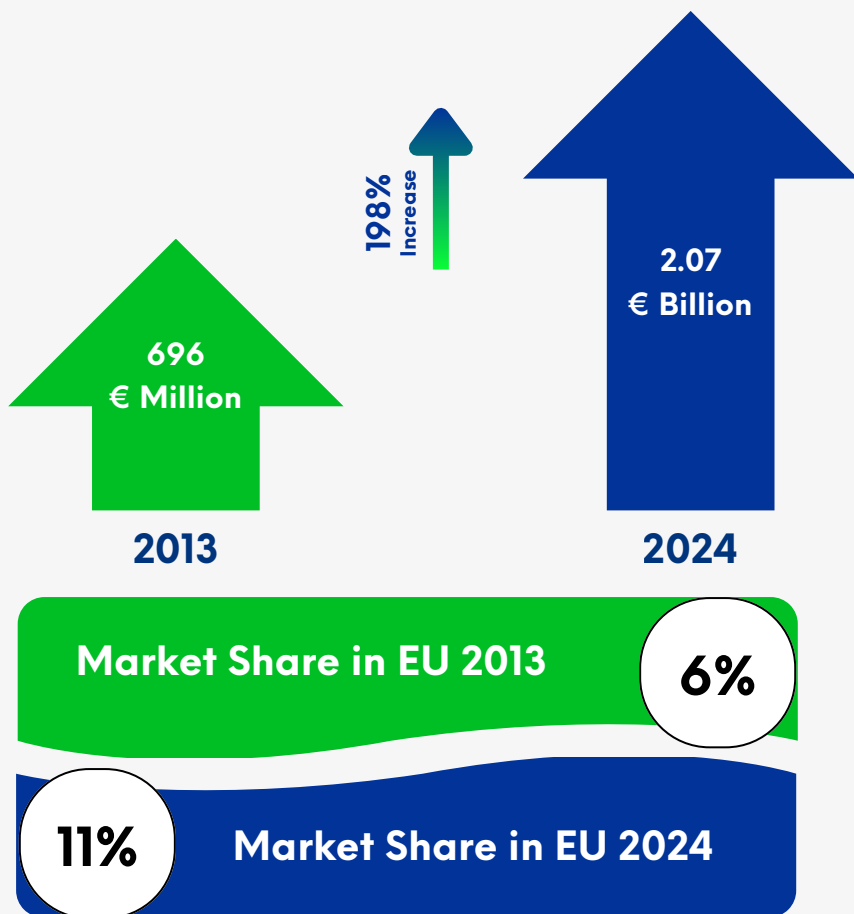
# Textile Apparel & Hosiery - Leading Export Sector of Pakistan

Pakistan's exports to the EU in **Textile Apparel & Hosiery** have grown from €1.05 bn in 2013 to €3.51 bn in 2024, which represents an increase of more than 235%

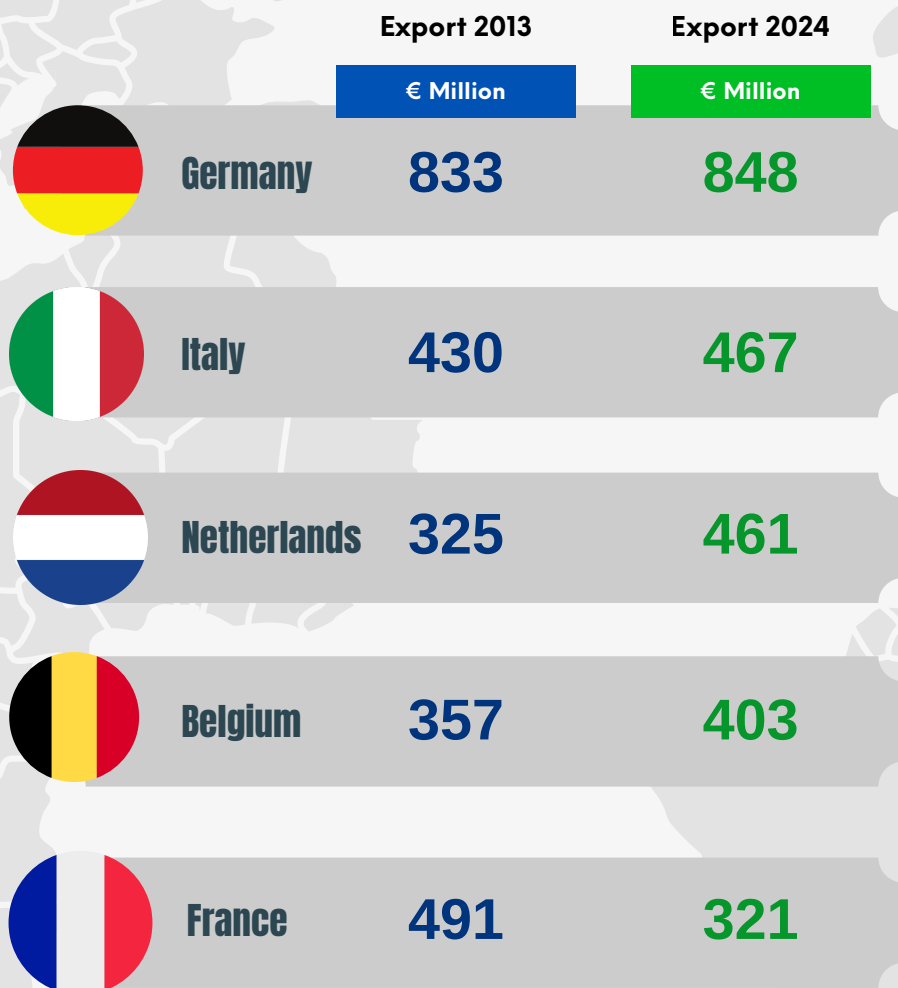


# Home Textile - Leading Export Sector of Pakistan

Pakistan's exports to the EU in **Home Textiles (Bed, Kitchen Linen, Toilet wear)** have grown from €696 million in 2013 to €2.07 bn in 2024, which represents an increase of 198%

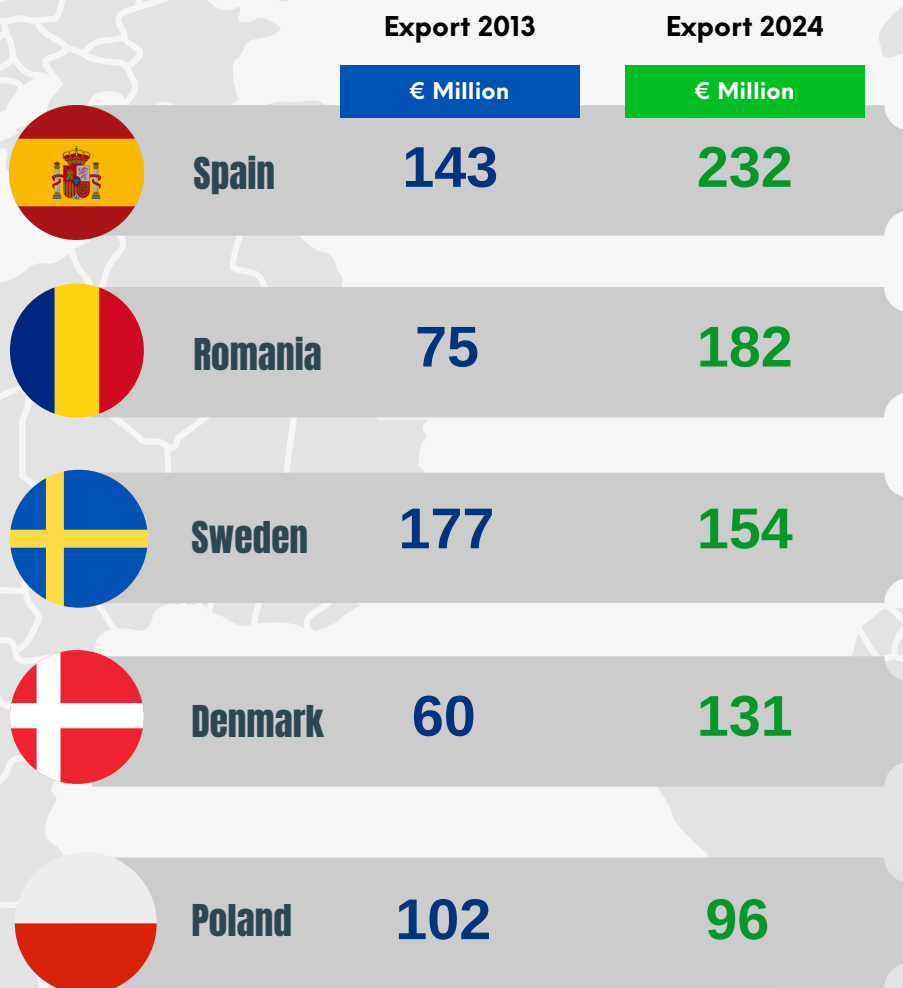


# Top Exporting EU Member States to Pakistan



Data Source: Eurostat

# Top Exporting EU Member States to Pakistan



Data Source: Eurostat

# Sectoral Dynamics of EU Trade Growth in Pakistan

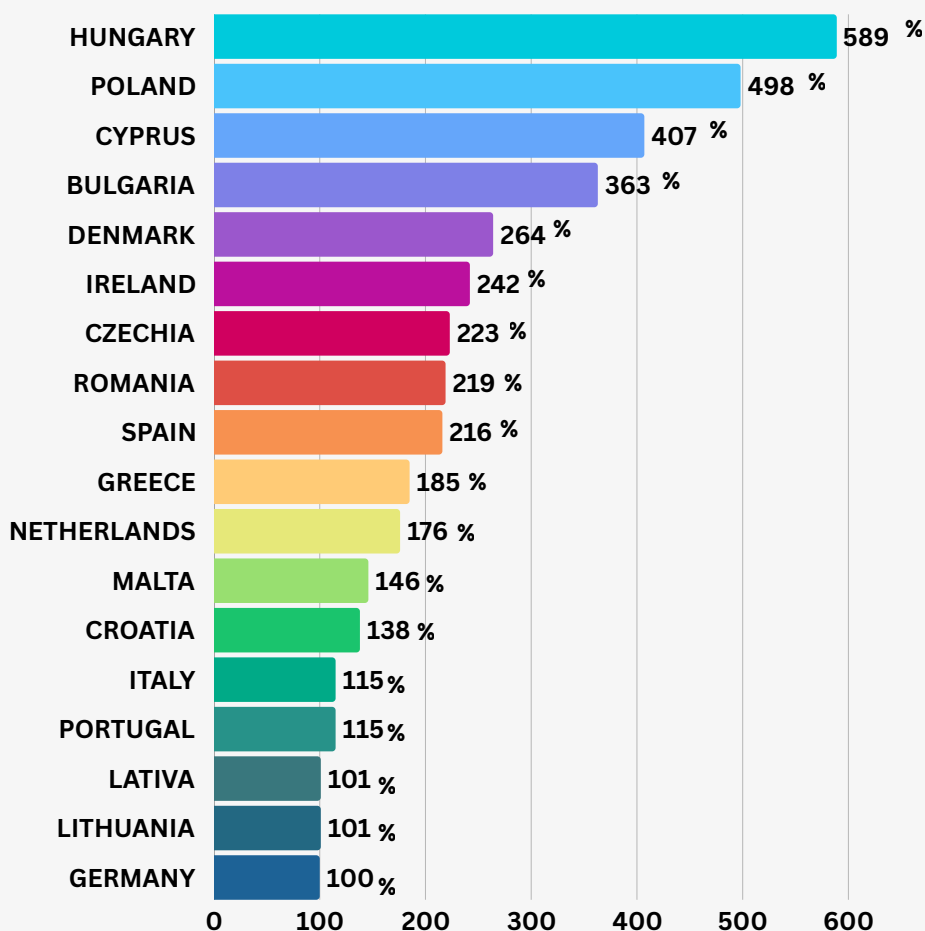
The GSP+ arrangement has significantly strengthened bilateral trade between the European Union and Pakistan. EU exports to Pakistan, despite variations, remained higher than the 2014 levels and reached their highest level of EUR 5.54 bn.

DESCRIPTION	2013 € MILLION	2024 € MILLION	% CHANGE
Surgical goods	174	244	40%
Aluminum	43	129	202%
Iron & Steel	202	429	112%
Cotton	12	66	431%
Pharma	264	358	36%

Data Source: Eurostat

# Country-Wise Gains

Pakistan's exports increased by more than 100% in 18 EU member states.

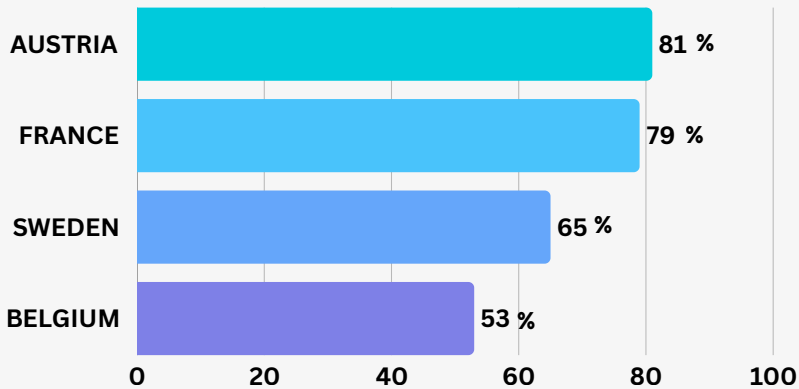


Data Source: Eurostat

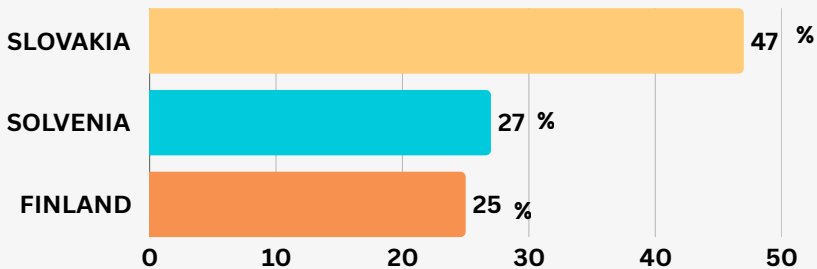


# Country-Wise Gains

**Pakistan's exports increased by more than 50% in 04 EU member states.**



**Pakistan's exports increased by 20% to 50% in three EU member states.**



*Data Source: Eurostat*

# GSP+: Driving Livelihoods & Inclusive Growth in Pakistan

Pakistan's inclusion in the EU's GSP+ has served as a critical enabler for livelihood enhancement through inclusive economic growth, export-led industrialization, and employment generation.

## **Climate Disasters and Trade Vulnerability**

The increasing frequency of climate disasters has severely impacted Pakistan's economy, society, and trade. The 2022 floods damaged 2.29 million homes, affected over 2 million farmers, and destroyed 10 million acres of crops, causing a 0.6% GDP decline and a 4% rise in poverty, while the 2025 floods damaged 229,763 homes, displaced hundreds of thousands, and reduced rice and cotton yields by 50% and 60%, respectively. Infrastructure losses were immense, with 13,000 km of roads and 439 bridges destroyed in 2022 and 2,811 km of roads and 790 bridges in 2025, severely disrupting supply chains. Exports fell 13% in 2022 (from \$28.0 to \$24.4 bn) and 4% in 2025 (from \$31.0 to \$29.7 bn), with rice exports dropping by 42% and cotton losses costing \$2–3 bn, leading to an estimated 15% cumulative export reduction and \$4–5 bn annual losses. To achieve resilience and climate stability, Pakistan requires \$565.7 bn by 2035, including \$152 bn for adaptation, \$196 bn for mitigation, and \$217.7 bn for transition initiatives.

## **Enhancing Employment and Livelihood Opportunities**

GSP+ has proven to be more than a trade facilitation tool rather a partnership for sustainable livelihoods. The trade scheme has significantly contributed to the livelihoods of Pakistan's workforce by bolstering export-oriented sectors, particularly

textiles, garments, leather, and agro-based industries, which are the backbone of the country's economy. The GSP+ framework has encouraged modernization of production systems, development of supply chain linkages, and integration of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) into global trade networks. This has improved resilience and diversification, with SMEs increasingly benefitting from improved market access and compliance-based certification support.

### **Social Upliftment and Gender Empowerment**

By incentivizing compliance with international labour and human rights conventions, GSP+ has fostered improvements in social protection, workplace safety, and gender equality. Women's participation in the textile and apparel industry has increased, offering them stable incomes and financial independence.

Despite these gains, Pakistan's livelihoods have been severely affected by the catastrophic floods of 2022 and 2025 which submerged a large part of the country, displacing millions and destroying vast tracts of agricultural land and infrastructure. Key export crops such as cotton and rice were among the worst hit, directly affecting the income of farmers and rural workers. The destruction of infrastructure and disruption of supply chains further exacerbated vulnerabilities, especially for women and informal sector workers who rely on seasonal labour. In this context, the continuation of GSP+ status is of paramount importance to Pakistan. It serves as a vital mechanism to restore livelihoods, regenerate production capacity, and sustain socio-economic recovery. The preferential market access to the EU remains a cornerstone of Pakistan's post-disaster resilience strategy and long-term inclusive development goals.

# VISUAL HIGHLIGHTS



President Asif Ali Zardari, along with Heads of Minority Communities, Cuts a Cake to Celebrate National Minorities Day



Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif Cuts a Cake to Mark Diwali with Leaders of Different Faiths



Minister of State for Religious Affairs & Interfaith Harmony



First Lady Bibi Aseefa Bhutto Zardari visits the flood victims of Sindh.



Field Marshal Syed Asim Munir, Chief of Army Staff, joined the Christian community in celebrating Christmas, underscoring the spirit of inclusivity and harmony.

# VISUAL HIGHLIGHTS



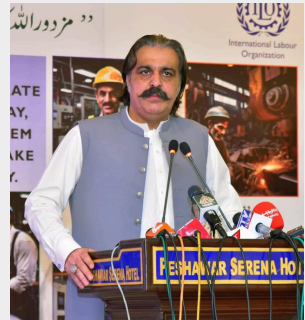
CM Balochistan launches electric bikes scheme for women in Quetta



Commerce Minister with Women Chamber Representatives



Pink EV Scooty for Students & Working Women (Sindh)



Event Organized on the Occasion of International Labor Day (KP)



Christmas Celebration in KP



Pakistan Labour Academy (PLA) is a Pioneering Initiative to Train Emerging Young Leaders from the Trade Unions (Sindh)



# VISUAL HIGHLIGHTS



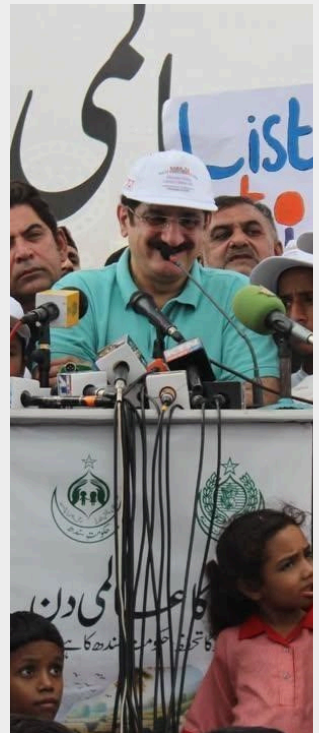
Sindh Teaching Licensing Policy (Sindh)



Centers for Autism Rehabilitation (Sindh)



Public-Private Coordination for Child Protection (Sindh)



Awareness Walks on Universal Children's Day (Sindh)

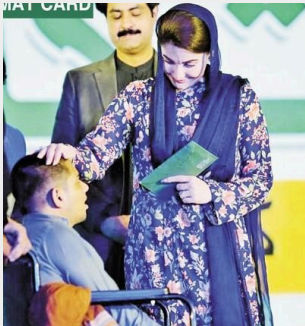
# VISUAL HIGHLIGHTS



School Children Meal Program in ICT



The Punjab Minority Card Scheme



Punjab Himmat Card Program for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs)



Punjab Schools Meal Program



Electroco Buses Project in Punjab



National Tripartite Labour Conference



# VISUAL HIGHLIGHTS



Transgender Community at an exhibition organized by TDAP



Development of a Transgender Education Policy (Sindh)



Scholarships to 596 Minority Students (Sindh)



Installed CCTV Cameras at 253 Sensitive Minority Religious Places (Sindh)



Sindh Government's Peoples Pink Bus Service for Women (Sindh)



Establishment of the Directorate of Inclusive Education (Sindh)



# VISUAL HIGHLIGHTS



First Floating Mangrove Biodiversity Park (Sindh)



Mother & Child Support Programme (MCSP) (Sindh)



Rebuilding Lives for Flood Affected (SPHF) Program (Sindh)



Occupational Safety & Health Guidelines being ensured



Holi Celebrations in KP



Floating Solar Power Project (Sindh)

# PAKISTAN MAP



**Source:**

<https://surveyofpakistan.gov.pk>



[www.commerce.gov.pk](http://www.commerce.gov.pk)

**Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Commerce  
Treaty Implementation Cell**