







An Analysis of India's Trade Pattern with Latin American and Caribbean Countries



PHD RESEARCH BUREAU
PHD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



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PHD Chamber Viewpoint



Shri Saket Dalmia President PHDCCI

Driven by the complementarity between the factor endowments of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) and the importing needs of India, trade and investment flows between the two regions have significantly increased. Total trade with between India and LAC region has increased from USD 29 billion in 2017-18 to USD 39 billion in 2022-23. India's exports to LAC stands at USD 17.7 billion and imports from LAC at USD 21.9 billion in 2022-23. With two-way commerce between India and LAC region slightly below USD 40 billion, the current trade is still the business of just a handful of products. The untapped trade potential should be realized not only from the facilitation of trade among well-established trade partners, but also requires the discovery of new markets that are not on each other's radar screen.



Shri Sanjeev Agrawal Senior Vice President PHDCCI

There are immense opportunities for trade, investment, and cooperation that have hitherto remained unexplored. There are few commodities which are dominant in India's export basket to LAC countries like organic chemicals, iron and steel, vehicles other than railways, nuclear reactors, pharmaceutical products and electrical machinery. Similarly, India's import basket from LAC is also concentrated towards few products only. There are few common commodities which are imported from majority of LAC countries like natural pearls, wood, mineral oil and fuels, iron and steel and natural reactors and boilers. This signifies the need for trade diversification between the two regions.



Shri Hemant Jain Vice President PHDCCI

While private companies have built success stories in each other's markets, governments have not followed suit with the design of regulatory infrastructure needed for deeper integration. With the number of reforms geared towards reduction of trade costs, total trade between the two regions may grow significantly. In this case, it is pertinent for the governments to implement array of policy instruments in order to reduce the business costs between the two regions.





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Widening the coverage of trade and investment agreements, increasing trade facilitation measures, developing business networks and boosting investments in infrastructure can act as a catalyst to increase the trade ties between India and LAC region. There is a need to strengthen the economic relations with signing of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the LAC region. Government should convert the existing Preferential Trade agreements into Free Trade Agreements and sign more Comprehensive trade agreements with other LAC countries.



Executive Summary

The pattern of India's trade with 13 Latin American and Caribbean LAC countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Peru, Bolivia and Jamaica) show that India's total exports to these 13 countries are US\$16.06 billion in 2022-23 whereas the imports from these countries are relatively more i.e. US\$ 20.87 billion, thus resulting in a trade deficit amounting to US\$ (-) 4.8 billion in 2022-23. Though India has trade deficit with these 13 countries combined, the trade patterns with each of the individual Latin American and Caribbean countries are different.

A closer look at individual countries reveal that there are few Latin American and Caribbean countries where India has consistently trade surplus for the last five years (i.e. from 2018-19 to 2022-23) i.e. Guatemala, Panama Republic, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Jamaica and Guyana (except in 2021-22).

On the other hand, there are other LAC countries where India has trade deficit for the last five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23 i.e. Argentina, Peru, Bolivia and Chile (except 2020-21). India's trade surplus with Colombia and Ecuador has turned into trade deficit in the last two/three years. Trade deficit with Brazil has turned into trade surplus and it is on significant rise for the last four years.

Secondly, India's trade with these 13 Latin American and Caribbean countries is found to be highly concentrated. It is well evident from the fact that the average share of India's top 10 exports in India's total exports to these 13 countries approximates around 53.6% in 2022-23. Whereas the average share of top 10 imports in India's total imports from these 13 countries is around 96.89% in 2022-23. Thus, India's export and import basket with these 13 LAC countries is highly skewed towards selected commodities only.

Thirdly, the analysis of India's exports to these 13 LAC countries reveal that there are few commodities which constitute majority of India's exports to these countries. Eight products are identified as India's potential export commodities as these are exported to majority of 13 LAC countries including vehicles other than railways, nuclear reactors, pharmaceutical products, electrical machinery, organic chemicals, iron and steel, rubber articles and miscellaneous chemical products.

Fourthly, there are few common commodities which are India's top 10 imports from these 13 Latin American and Caribbean countries in 2022-23. These commodities are imported from majority of LAC countries, and are highly important in India's import basket from these countries. Seven products are identified where India has high import dependence on 13 LAC



countries including iron and steel, nuclear reactors, aluminum articles, articles of wood, ores, slag and ash, natural pearls and mineral fuels and oils.

Finally, in order to further enhance India's exports to LAC countries, increasing production capacity in potential export products need to be achieved. On the other hand, building domestic capabilities in products of high import dependence would help to reduce India's trade deficit with 13 LAC countries.

1. India's Trade Pattern with Latin American and Caribbean Countries

Table -1 shows the pattern of India's trade with Latin American and Caribbean Region (LAC) in 2022-23. India's total exports to these 13 Latin American and Caribbean countries amounts to around USD 16068.37 million in 2022-23. Whereas India's imports from these 13 countries are relatively much higher i.e. USD 20873.69 million, resulting in India's total trade deficit to approximately USD (-)4805 million with these 13 LAC countries. India's trade deficit with these 13 LAC countries declined from USD (-)7491.73 million in 2021-22 to USD (-)4805.32 million in 2022-23.

Table-1 India's Trade Pattern with Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) Countries: 2022-23 (USD million)

Sr. No	Countries	India's	India's Imports	Trade Deficit/
		Exports to	from LAC	Surplus
		LAC countries	countries	
1	Argentina	960.40	3929.10	(-)2968.70
2	Brazil	9919.47	6672.52	3246.95
3	Chile	1166.43	1435.83	(-)269.4
4	Colombia	1447.93	2634.19	(-)1186.26
5	Ecuador	399.79	1016.41	(-)616.62
6	Guatemala	465.35	20.70	444.65
7	Guyana	62.15	4.22	57.93
8	Panama Republic	314.56	283.35	31.21
9	Costa Rica	192.72	60.78	131.94
10	Nicaragua	108.69	10.64	98.05
11	Peru	865.79	2250.75	(-)1384.96
12	Bolivia	77.34	2550.21	(-)2472.87
13	Jamaica	87.75	4.99	82.76
	Total	16068.37	20873.69	(-)4805.32



Though India has trade deficit with these 13 LAC countries in total, a closer look at individual countries reveal that there are few Latin American and Caribbean countries where India has consistently trade surplus for the last five years (i.e. from 2018-19 to 2022-23) i.e. Guatemala, Panama Republic, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Jamaica and Guyana (except in 2021-22).

On the other hand, there are other LAC countries where India has trade deficit i.e. Argentina, Peru, Chile (except 2020-21) and Bolivia from 2018-19 to 2022-23. Whereas India's trade surplus with Colombia and Ecuador has turned into trade deficit in the last two/three years. Trade deficit with Brazil has turned into trade surplus and it is on significant rise for the last four years.

India's total trade with all these countries has increased in the last five years except Chile where it has slightly declined. There are some countries with which India's trade has significantly increased from 2018-19 to 2022-23 i.e. Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Argentina, Panama Republic, Guatemala and Guyana (the total trade with last four countries declined slightly in 2022-23). Whereas in another set of countries, though India's total trade with the same has increased but only marginally i.e. Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Peru and Jamaica.

2. Concentration of India's Trade with 13 Latin American and Caribbean Countries: Top 10 export and import commodities (HS-6 digit)

Table-2 shows the concentration of India's exports to and imports from 13 Latin America and Caribbean countries in 2022-23. The analysis shows that the share of top 10 export commodities in India's total exports to these countries remains very high. The average concentration of top 10 exports in India's total exports to these 13 countries is 53.6%. Whereas the average concentration of top 10 imports in India's total imports from these countries is much higher i.e. 96.89%.

The share of top 10 export commodities in India's total exports to these countries hovers around 50% to 55% i.e. Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama Republic, Nicaragua and Peru. Whereas in another set of countries, India's top 10 export commodities secure very high share in its total exports to the same (63% to 65%) i.e. Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica and Jamaica. However, India's top ten export commodities secure low share in its total exports to Guyana and Argentina i.e. 40.98% and 42.43 respectively. It indicates India's highly concentrated export basket to the Latin American and Caribbean Region.



India's imports from these LAC countries show that it is only top 10 import commodities which constitute India's total imports from these 13 LAC countries. India's imports from these Latin American and Caribbean countries are skewed towards very few commodities. India's highly concentrated exports and imports structure is found in all 13 Latin America and Caribbean countries above.

Table-2 Concentration of India's exports to and Imports from 13 Latin American and Caribbean Countries -2022-23 (% percent)

Sr. No	Countries	Share of top 10 export commodities (HS-6 digit) in India's total exports to each respective country	Share of top 10 import commodities(HS-6 digit) in India's total imports from each respective
1	Argentina	42.43%	country 97.97%
2	Brazil	65.81%	85.64%
3	Chile	51.87%	94.52%
4	Colombia	47.79%	98.61%
5	Ecuador	51.05%	99.69%
6	Guatemala	49.29%	94.30%
7	Guyana	40.98%	99.76%
8	Panama Republic	47.09%	99.63%
9	Costa Rica	66.30%	94.55%
10	Nicaragua	55.79%	98.87%
11	Peru	49.72%	99.21%
12	Bolivia	62.89%	100%
13	Jamaica	65.75%	96.79%
Average concentration of India's exports to and imports from 13 LAC countries		53.6%	96.89%

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

Though India's exports to and imports from 13 Latin American and Caribbean countries are dominant in few commodities, it is evident from table-2 that that India's imports from these LAC are relatively more concentrated than export basket in 2022-23. India's concentrated export and import structure to LAC countries has been observed for the last many years. This point towards the need for export diversification. India should strive to increase its market share in new unexplored areas and in untapped markets of LAC region.



3. India's Top 10 exports and imports with Latin American and Caribbean Countries

India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from Argentina 2022-23 (HS 6-Digit level)

Sr.	HS-6	India's top 10 exports to	HS-6	India's top 10 imports from Argentina
No	digit	Argentina	digit	
1	271019	Other petroleum oils and oil obtain from bituminous mineral	150710	soya bean crude oil W/N Degummed
2	380893	herbicides & anti-sprouting prod	151211	crude oil of sunflower
3	390690	Other acrylic polymers	710812	Other unwrought forms
4	871120	Motor cycle with internal combustion piston engine of cylinder capacity >50CC to 250 CC	230400	oil cake and other solid residue W/N GRND/IN Pllts Form obtnd Frm soya-bean oil extrctn
5	540233	Textured yarn of polyesters,	100390	others barley excl seed
6	871130	Motor cycle with internal engine of cap CAP>250CC to 500CC	271311	petroleum cake not calcined
7	401170	of a kind used on agricul or forestry vehicles	410441	full grains-unsplit/grain-splits of bovine in dry state(crust)
8	380892	fungicides	292320	lecithins and othr phosphoaminolipids
9	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition internal combustion engine of cap>1000CC BT NT>1500CC	440322	Of pine (pinus spp), other
10	294200	other organic compounds	440321	Of pine (pinus spp), of which the smallest cross-sectional is 15 cm or more.

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from from Brazil 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr.	HS-6	India's top 10 exports to Brazil	HS-6	India's top 10 imports from Brail
No	digit		digit	
1	271019	Other petroleum oils and oil obtained	150710	Soya bean crude oil W/N
		from bituminous minerals		degummed
2	380891	Insecticides	270900	Petroleum oils
3	300490	Other medicine put for retail sale	710812	Other unwrought forms
4	380892	Fungicides	170114	Other cane sugar
5	380893	Herbicides & anti-sprouting prod	252490	Others
6	870899	Otr of prtsandaccssrs of vehicles of HDG	260111	Iron-ores and concentrates non-
		8701-8705		agglomerated other than roasted
				iron-pyrites
7	294200	Other organic compounds	300431	Medicaments containing insulin
8	401120	Non-pnmtc tyres used on bus/lorry	520100	Cotton, not carded or combed
9	871410	Of motorcycles (inc mopeds)	260300	Copper ores and concentrates
10	870193	Other tractors of engine power exceeding	720449	Other waste and scraps
		37kw but not exceeding 75kw		



India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from from Chile 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr. No	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 exports to Chile	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 imports from Chile
1	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition internal combustion engine of cap>1000CC BT NT>1500CC	260300	Copper ores and concentrates
2	300490	Other medicine put for retail sale	280120	lodine
3	870323	Vehicles with spark ignition internal comb engine of cap>1500CC BT<=3000	261310	Molybdnum ores and concentrates roasted
4	150420	Fats and oils	470321	Bleached and semi-bleached coniferous chemical wood pulp
5	870321	Vehicles with spark ignition int comb engine of cap<=1000CC	80231	Walnuts fresh or dried in shell
6	850300	Parts sutbl fr use solely with themchns of HDG no.8501 and 8502	80810	Apple fresh
7	871120	Motor cycle with internal combustion piston engine of cylinder cap >50CC to 250CC	81050	Kiwi fruits
8	630532	Flexible bulk containers of man- made textile materials	470329	Bleached and semi-bleached non- coniferous chemical wood pulp
9	420329	Glovs, mitns and mits designed for other use	470200	Chemical wood pulp dissolving grades
10	560811	Made up fishing nets of man-made textile material.	760200	Aluminium waste and scrap

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from From Colombia 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr. No	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 exports to Colombia	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 imports from Colombia
1	871120	Motor cycle with internal	270900	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from
		combustion piston engine of		bituminous mineral crude
		cylinder cap >50CC to 250CC		
2	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition	710812	Other unwrought forms
		internal combustion engine of		
		cap>1000CC BT NT>1500CC		
3	300490	Other medicine put for retail sale	270400	Coke and semi-coke of coal/lignite/
4	730820	Towers and lattice masts	261690	Othr precious metal ores & concentrates
5	380892	Fungicide	440342	Teak
6	871410	Of motorcycles (including mopeds)	390410	Poly(venylchloride) not mixed othr
7	850300	Prts subtle for use with themchns	760200	Aluminium waste and scrap
		of HDGNo.8501 and 8502		
8	741980	Other	260300	copper ores and concentrates
9	520523	Single yarn of comb fibre meas	390740	polycarbonates
		<232.56 but>=192.3 DCTX		
10	380891	Insecticides	270119	other coal



India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from from Ecuador 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr. No	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 exports to Ecuador	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 imports from Ecuador
1	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition internal	270900	Petroleum oils and oils obtained
		combustion engine of cap>1000CC		from bituminous mineral crude
		BT NT>1500CC		
2	870323	Vehicles with spark ignition internal	710812	Other unwrought forms
		comb engine of cap>1500CC		
		BT<=3000		
3	300490	Other medicine put for retail sale	440342	Teak
4	400300	Reclaimed rubber in primary form	440722	Virola, Imbuia and Balsa
5	871120	Motor cycle with internal engine of	760200	Aluminium waste and scrap
		capacity >50CC to 250CC		
6	150420	Fats and oils	90411	Pepper neither crushed nor ground
7	870899	Otr of prtsandaccssrs of vehicles of	30617	other shrimps and prawn: frozen
		HDG 8701-8705		
8	870734	Reciprocating engines used fr	440723	Teak
		PRPLSN of chap 87 with cylinder		
		cap>1000CC		
9	760521	Wire of aluminium alloys of whc max	720421	Waste and scrap and stainless steel
		cross-sctnl dimension exceeds 7 mm		
10	380892	Fungicides	293723	Oerstrogens and progestogens

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from Guatemala 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr.	HS-6	India's top 10 exports to Guatemala	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 imports from
No	digit		440040	Guatemala
1	871120	Motor cycle with internal engine of capacity>50CC to 250CC	440342	Teak
2	300490	Other medicine put for retail sale	90831	Cardamoms: neither crushed nor ground
3	870323	Vehicles with spark internal comb engine of cap>1500CC BT<=3000	760200	Aluminium waste and scrap
4	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition internal combustion engine of cap>1000CC BT NT>1500CC	470710	Waste and scrap of unbleached craft paper or paperboard
5	870321	Vehicles with spark-ignition internal combustion engine of cap<=1000	470790	Other, including unsorted waste and scrap
6	520942	Denim	720449	Other waste and scrap
7	690721	Of water absorption coefficient of weight not exceed 0.5%	720421	Waste and scrap of stainless steel
8	520532	MLTPL(flded)/cbld yrn of uncmbd fbrs measurng<714.29 But >=232.56 DCTX	120930	Seeds of herbaceous plants
9	520523	Sngl yrn of cmbd fbrs measurng< 232.56 But >=192.31 DCTX	440723	Teak
10	844520	Textile spinning machines	130190	Other: Natural Gums



India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from Guyana 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr.	HS-6	India's top 10 exports to Guyana	HS-6	India's top 10 imports from
No	digit		digit	Guyana
1	300490	Other medicine put for retail sale	440399	Other wood in rough
2	870193	Other tractors of engine power	846693	Parts and accessories of FR HDG
		exceeding 37kw but not exc 75kw		No 8456 to 8461
3	842952	Machinery with 360 degree	260600	Aluminium ores and concentrates
		revolving super-structure		
4	721070	Products painted with plastics	760200	Aluminium waste and scrap
5	870423	G.V.W. exceeding 20 tonnes	720449	Other waste and scrap
6	847490	Parts of machines of HDG 8474	740400	Copper waste and scrap
7	610910	T-shirts etc of cotton	440326	Other
8	848180	Other appliances	271019	Other petroleum oils and oil
				obtain from bituminous minerals
9	300431	Medicaments containing insulin	720421	Waste and scrap of stainless steel
10	300420	Others, containing antibiotics.	843143	Parts of borng machinery of Sub
				HDG No 843041/843049

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from From Panama Republic 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr.	HS-6	India's top 10 exports to	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 imports from
No	digit	Panama Republic		Panama Republic
1	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition	260300	Copper ores and concentrates
		internal combustion engine of		
		cap>1000CC BT NT>1500CC		
2	870323	Vehicles with spark ignition	440342	Teak
		internal comb engine of		
		cap>1500CC BT<=3000		
3	610910	T-shirts etc of cotton	890190	Other vessels for transportation of
				goods
4	300490	Other medicine put for retail sale	720449	Other waste and scrap
_	240220	6:	720424	
5	240220	Cigarettes containing tobacco	720421	Waste and scrap of stainless steel
6	610990	T-shirts of other textile material	720429	Waste and scrap of other alloy steel
		5		
7	847490	Parts of machines of HDG 8474	760200	Aluminium waste and scrap
8	630492	Other furnishing articles of	740400	Copper waste and scrap
		cotton, not knitted/crocheted		·
9	620349	Trousers, bib and brace of	843149	Other machine parts of HDG No:
		other textile material-		8426/8430/8439
		Men/boys		
10	620520	Men or boys shirts of cotton.	271019	Other petroleum oils and oil obtain
				from bituminous minerals



India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from Costa Rica 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr.	HS-6	India's top 10 exports to	HS-6	India's top 10 imports from Costa
No	digit	Costa Rica	digit	Rica
1	720719	Other products containing by	440342	Teak
		WT<0.25% of carbon		
2	380892	Fungicides	847330	Parts of machines of HDG No: 8471
3	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition	720449	Other waste and scrap
		internal combustion engine of		
		cap>1000CC BT NT>1500CC		
4	300490	Other medicine put for retail sale	120710	Palm nuts and kernels
5	901890	Other instruments and appliances	851779	Other
		of medical science		
6	870323	Vehicles with spark ignition	901890	Other instruments and appliance of
		internal comb engine of		medical science
		cap>1500CC BT<=3000		
7	871120	Motor cycle with internal engine of	901839	Catheters and the like, other
		cylinder capacity>50CC to 250 CC		needles
8	380893	Herbicides & anti-sprouting prod	853690	Other appliances of heading 8536
9	870321	Vehicles with spark-ignition	300691	appliances identifiable for ostomy
		internal combustion engine of		use
		cap<=1000		
10	401512	Of a kind used for medical purposes.	440723	Teak

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from Nicaragua 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr.	HS-6	India's top 10 exports to	HS-6	India's top 10 imports from
No	digit	Nicaragua	digit	Nicaragua
1	300490	Other medcn put up for retail sale	720449	Other waste and scrap
2	871120	Motor cycle with engine of cylinder	440723	Teak
		capacity>50CC to 250 CC		
3	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition	440342	Teak
		internal combustion engine of		
		cap>1000CC BT NT>1500CC		
4	870321	Vehicles with internal combustion	760200	Aluminium waste and scrap
		engine of cap<=1000		
5	482020	Exercise books	520911	Unbleached plain cotton fabrics
				weighing more thn 200 gm per sqm
6	870323	Vehicles with spark ignition	410419	Other grain of bovine in wet state
		internal comb engine of		including wet-blue
		cap>1500CC BT<=3000		
7	847490	Parts of machines of HDG 8474	720421	Waste and scrap and stainless steel
8	300241	Vaccines for human medicine	440349	Other
9	600690	Other knitted or crocheted fibres	521120	Bleached
10	482010	registers ACCT/NOTE/ORDR and	521111	Unbleached plain mxd cotn fabrics
		SMLR articles of PAPR		weighing more thn 200 gm per sqm



India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from Peru 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr.	HS-6	India's top 10 exports to	HS-6	India's top 10 imports from
No	digit	Peru	digit	Peru
1	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition internal	710812	Other unwrought forms
		combustion engine of cap>1000CC		
		BT NT>1500CC		
2	300490	Other medicine put up for retail sale	260300	Copper ores and concentrates
3	870321	Vehicles with internal combustion	251010	Natural calcium phosphate, natural
		engine of cap<=1000		alum, calcium phosphate
4	871120	Motor cycle with engine of cylinder	710692	Semi manufactured silver
		capacity>50CC to 250 CC		
5	520523	Sngl yrn of cmbd fbrs measurng<	270111	anthrcite coal W/N pulvrsd not
		232.56 But >=192.31 DCTX		agglomerated
6	870323	Vehicles with spark ignition internal	720449	Other waste and scrap
		comb engine of cap>1500CC		
		BT<=3000		
7	850300	Parts sutbl fr use solely with	720421	Waste and scrap and stainless steel
		themchns of HDG no.8501 and 8502		
8	520522	Sngl yrn of cmbd fbrs measurng<	550130	Synthetic filament
		714.29 But >=232.56 DCTX		tow/acryclic/modacyrlic
9	520526	Sngl yrn of cmbd fbrs measuring	843050	Other machinery, self-propelled
		btw 106.38 and 125 DCTX		
10	847490	Parts of machines of HDG 8474	280540	Mercury

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from Bolivia 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr. No	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 exports to Peru	HS-6 digit	India's top 10 imports from Peru
1	300490	Other medicine put up for retail sale	710812	Other unwrought forms
2	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition internal	261690	Other precious metal ores &
		combustion engine of cap>1000CC		concentrates
		BT NT>1500CC		
3	871120	Motor cycle with engine of cylinder	720491	Waste and scrap and stainless steel
		capacity>50CC to 250 CC		
4	870323	Vehicles with spark ignition internal	710310	Unworked roughly shaped precious
		comb engine of cap>1500CC		and semi-precious stones
		BT<=3000		
5	870321	Vehicles with internal combustion	740400	Copper waste and scrap
		engine of cap<=1000		
6	300241	Vaccines for human medicine	760200	Aluminium waste and scrap
7	130190	Other: natural Gums	720449	Other waste and scrap
8	300212	Antisera and other blood fractions	848190	Parts of the item under HDG 8481
9	300450	Other medicaments cont vitamins or	940179	Other seats with MTL firms
		othr products of heading 2936		
10	401120	New PNMTC used on buses/lorries	392690	Other articles of plastics



India's Top 10 Exports to and Imports from Jamaica 2022-23 (HS 6-digit)

Sr.	HS-6	India's top 10 exports to	HS-6	India's top 10 imports from
No	digit	Jamaica	digit	Jamaica
1	300490	Other medicine put up for retail sale	854911	Waste and scrap of lead acid
				accumulators
2	870323	Vehicles with spark ignition internal	711319	Articles of other precious metals
		comb engine of cap>1500CC		W/N PLTD or CLAD
		BT<=3000		
3	30617	Other shrimps and prawn: frozen	760200	Aluminium waste and scrap
4	870322	Vehicles with spark-ignition internal	470790	Other including unsorted waste and
		combustion engine of cap>1000CC		scrap
		BT NT>1500CC		
5	690721	Of water absorption coefficient of	470710	Waste and scrap of unbleached kraft
		weight not exceed 0.5%		paper or paperboard
6	610910	T-shirts etc of cotton	90422	Fruits of genus capsicum crushed or
				ground
7	721061	FLT-RLD products of iron/non-alloy	846729	Other machines with self-contained
		steel		electric motor
8	300420	Others, containing antibiotics	902990	Parts of articles of HDG 9029
9	722599	Other FLT-RLD products of other	720449	Other waste and scrap
		alloy steel		
10	300450	Other medicaments containing	121190	Other seeds
		vitamins of heading 2436		

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

It is thus observed from the above analysis that India's top 10 exports to these 13 LAC countries are few common commodities which are exported to majority of these LAC countries. These are broadly industrial commodities which constitute notable share of India's exports to these countries. The composition of India's top 10 exports has not significantly altered over the last five years (as India's top 10 exports have also been calculated for 2017-18, which does not show major changes in 2022-23 when compared).

Similarly, there are few selected commodities which India imports from majority of these 13 LAC countries. These few commodities iron and steel, nuclear reactors and boilers, iron and steel, aluminum and articles thereof, wood and articles of wood constitute major chunk of India's total imports from these 13 Latin American and Caribbean countries in 2022-23. India's top 10 imports from these LAC countries have not changed much over the past five years (as India's top 10 imports from these 13 LAC countries have also been calculated for 2017-18) which does not show any major change in the composition of India's imports from these LAC countries in 2022-23 when compared.



4. Identification of Significant commodities in India's top 10 exports to 13 Latin American and Caribbean Countries

exported to 13 LAC countries, HS-30 pharmaceutical products are exported to 12 LAC countries, HS-38 miscellaneous chemical products is The analysis of India's top 10 exports to these 13 LAC countries reveal that there are few commodities which it exports to majority of these countries i.e. HS-87 (vehicles other than railways and tramway) is exported to 13 LAC countries, HS-84 nuclear reactors and boilers are exported to 8 countries, HS-29 organic chemicals is exported to 9 LAC countries, HS-72 iron and steel is exported to 7 LAC countries, and HS-40 rubber and articles thereof is exported to 9 LAC countries and HS-85 electrical machinery and equip is exported to 9 LAC countries. Thus, these eight commodities are highly significant in India's export basket to these LAC countries in 2022-23.

Bolivia Jamaica No of countries	2	13	>	∞		6		7	/ 13			2		2	
		,	>	>		>			>						
Peru		,	>			>		>	>			>			
Nicaragua			>	>					>						
Costa Rica		,	7	>		>		>	>						
Panama Republic	•	,	>						>			>			
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Chile Colombia		,	>	>		>			>						
Chile		,	>			>			>						
Brazil	>	\	>	>		>		>	>					>	
Arg	>	_	>	>		>		>	>						
HS-2 Commodities	Mineral fuels	Aphicles other	than railways*	Miscellaneous	chemical	Organic	chemicals*	Iron and steel*	Nuclear	reactors and	boilers*	Man-made	staple fibers	Tanning and	dving extracts
HS-2 digit	27	87	ò	38		29		72	84			55		32	



10															Т			
No of countries	т	9	12	Н	6	7			6		П		н		4	1		4
Jamaica		>	>													>		>
Bolivia			>		>				>									
Peru			>		>				<i>/</i>						>			
Nicaragua			>		>				<i>/</i>									>
Costa Rica		>	>		>				>									
Panama Republic			>		>	>												
Guyana		>	>															>
Guatemala		>	>		>										>			>
Ecuador			>		>				>						>			
Colombia			>	>					/		>				>			
Chile		>	>			>			<i>></i>				>					
Brazil			>		>				ŗ									
Arg	>	>			>				/									
Commodities	Man-made filaments	Plastics and articles thereof	Pharmaceutical products *	Aluminum and articles thereof	Rubber and articles	Other man-	made textile articles and	worn clothing	Electrical	machinery and equipment*	Copper and	articles thereof*	Articles of	leather and	Cotton	Preparation of	meat	Ceramic products
HS-2 digit	54	39	30	76	40	63			85		74		42		52	16		69



No of countries	2	m	9	ro.	н	П	П	2
Jamaica		>		>			>	
Bolivia			>	>		>		
Peru			>					
Nicaragua				>	>			
Costa Rica				>				
Panama Republic	>	>	>					
Guyana	>	>	>	>				
Guatemala								
Ecuador								>
Chile Colombia			>					
			>					
Brazil								>
Arg								
Commodities	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories: not knitted and crocheted	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories: knitted and crocheted	Articles of iron and steel*	Optical, photographic and surgical apparatus	Paper and Paperboard	Gums,resins and vegetable saps	Fish and crustaceans	Animal or vegetable fat/oil
HS-2 digit	62	61	73	06	48	13	ж	15

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India



5. Identification of Significant commodities in India's top 10 imports from 13 Latin American and Caribbean Countries

is imported from 10 LAC countries, HS-44 wood and articles of wood is imported from 8 LAC countries, HS-26 ores, slag and ash is imported from 7 LAC countries, HS-71 natural pearls and precious stones is imported from 7 LAC countries and HS-27 mineral fuels and oils is imported from 7 LAC countries. These seven commodities are imported from majority of LAC countries, and are highly important in India's import from There are few common commodities in India's top 10 imports from these 13 Latin American and Caribbean countries i.e. HS-72 iron and steel is imported from 12 LAC Countries, **HS-84** nuclear reactors and boilers is imported from 8 LAC countries, **HS-76** aluminum and articles thereof these countries in 2022-23.

HS-2 digit	HS-2 Commodities digit	Arg	Arg Brazil Chile		Ecuador	Colombia Ecuador Guatemala Guyana Panama Republic	Guyana	Panama Republic	Costa Rica	Costa Nicaragua Rica	Peru	Bolivia	Bolivia Jamaica	No of countries
15	Animal or vegetable fat/oil	>	>											7
71	Natural pearls and precious stones*	>	>	>	>						>	>	>	7
23	Residues from Food industries	>												1
27	mineral fuels and mineral oils*	>	>	>	>		>	>			>			7
44	Wood & articles of wood *	>		>	>	>	>	>	>	>				œ
29	Organic chemicals	>	>	>	>									4
38	Misc chemical products	>												1



of es														
ţ	æ	Н	7	⊣	12	∞		н	7	7	2	m	10	4
No cour														
Jamaica	<i>></i>				>	>					>		>	>
Bolivia			>		>	>							>	
Peru			>		>	>				>		>		
Nicaragua					>								>	
Costa Rica	<i>></i>				>	>			>		>		>	>
Panama Republic			>		>	>					>		>	
Guyana	<i>></i>		>		>	>							>	
Guatemala					>						>		>	>
Ecuador					>								>	
Colombia			>		>	>							>	
Chile			>		>			>		>	>	>	>	>
Brazil			>	>	>	>			>					
Arg		>										>		
Commodities	optical, photographic and surgical apparatus	Cereals	Ores, slag and ash	Sugar Confectionary	Iron and steel*	Nuclear boilers	and nuclear reactors*	Products of milling industry	Pharmaceutical products	Edible fruits and nuts	Pulp of wood	Inorganic chem and rare earth	Aluminum and article thereof *	oilseeds and olea and medicinal plants
HS-2 digit	06	10	26	17	72	84		11	30	∞	47	28	76	12



No of countries	н	4	н	2	н	7	4	2	က	7	н	н
Jamaica r								>	>			
Bolivia		>					>					
Peru										>	>	
Nicaragua		<i>></i>										
Costa Rica						>			>			
Panama Republic							>					
Guyana							>		>			
Guatemala		>		>				>				>
Ecuador				>	>	>						
Colombia		<i>></i>					>					
	>		>									
Brazil Chile										>		
Arg												
Commodities	Fertilizers	Plastics and articles thereof	Paper and paperboard	Coffee, tea, mate and spices	Misc manufctrd articles	Zinc and articles	Copper and articles thereof	Essential oils, perfumery and cosmetic preparations	Electrical machinery and equip	Salt,Sulphur, lime and cement	Man-made staple fibers	Artcl of apparel Knitted/crochet
HS-2 digit	31	39	48	6	96	79	74	33	85	25	55	61



No of	countries	-	ı	Ü	í		г Н	1 1			2 1 1 1 1	1 7 7 7	1 7 7 7	1 1 2 1 1		
Bolivia Jamaica																
Bolivia																
Peru								>								
Nicaragua							>			_	>	>	>	>	>	>
Costa	NCa															
Panama Costa	uchanic				>											
Guyana																
Guatemala Guyana		>														
Ecuador														>	>	>
Colombia																
Chile																
Brazil												>	>	>	>	>
Arg										>						
HS-2 Commodities		Gums, resins and	other vegetable	saps	Beverages and	Vinegar	Cotton	Tanning and	Dyeing extracts	Raw hides &skin		Sugar and sugar	Sugar and sugar confectionery	Sugar and sugar confectionery Fish&crustacean	Sugar and sugar confectionery Fish&crustacean Tobacco & manf	Sugar and sugar confectionery Fish&crustacean Tobacco & manf tobacco
HS-2	าเลีย	13			22		52	32		41		17	17	17	17 3	3 24

Source: PHD Research Bureau, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, data compiled from Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India



Conclusions

India's total trade with LAC region as a whole was USD 28147.77 million in 2011-12. Its total trade with LAC region remained high from 2012-13 to 2014-15. Thereafter, it declined for two consecutive years and again increased. However, India's trade with LAC region declined to USD 22583.1 million in 2020-21, it improved notably and increased in post-pandemic years. India's total trade with LAC region as a whole stand at USD36672.05 million in 2021-22 and USD 39628 million in 2022-23.

India's total exports to entire Latin America and Caribbean region totaled around USD 12276 million in 2011-12. However, after a slight rise in 2012-13, India's exports to LAC region as a whole started declining and finally reduced to USD7230.94 million in 2016-17. India's exports to LAC region recovered in 2017-18 and has been increasing since then, and finally increased to USD14934 million in 2021-22 and USD17705.24 million in 2022-23.

India's total imports from Latin America and Caribbean region were USD16141 million in 2011-12. After a significant rise in India's imports from LAC region from 2012-13 to 2014-15, it started declining and remained at same level from 2015-16 to 2019-20. India's imports from LAC declined in 2020-21 to USD 12479.20 million. Thereafter, there has been an increase in India's imports from LAC region in post-pandemic years and amounts to around USD 21738 million in 2021-22 and USD 21923.11 million in 2022-23.

India's Trade with Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) Region: 2011-12 to 2022-23 (USD million)

Year	India's exports to LAC region	Growth in India's export to LAC (%)	India's imports from LAC region	Growth in India's imports from LAC (%)	India's total Trade with LAC region	Growth in India's total trade with LAC (%)	India's Trade deficit with LAC
2010-11	9324.24		13042.52		22366.7		-3718.28
2011-12	12276.8	31.7	16141.0	23.8	28417.8	27.1	-3864.3
2012-13	13517.9	10.1	27497.1	70.4	41015.0	44.3	-13979.2
2013-14	10791.5	-20.2	28128.1	2.3	38919.6	-5.1	-17336.5
2014-15	11528.4	6.8	26951.8	-4.2	38480.2	-1.1	-15423.4
2015-16	7529.4	-34.7	17691.8	-34.4	25221.2	-34.5	-10162.4
2016-17	7230.9	-4.0	17290.6	-2.3	24521.6	-2.8	-10059.7
2017-18	8611.5	19.1	20723.5	19.9	29335.0	19.6	-12112.0
2018-19	9740.7	13.1	20547.1	-0.9	30287.8	3.2	-10806.4
2019-20	10059.0	3.3	17074.9	-16.9	27133.9	-10.4	-7015.9
2020-21	10103.9	0.4	12479.2	-26.9	22583.1	-16.8	-2375.3
2021-22	14934.1	47.8	21738.0	74.2	36672.1	62.4	-6804
2022-23	17705.2	18.6	21923.1	0.9	39628.4	8.1	-4217.9



Though India has trade deficit with LAC region as a whole since 2011-12 till now, its trade relations with individual LAC countries are different. It has trade surplus with few LAC countries from 2018-19 to 2022-23 i.e. Guatemala, Panama Republic, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Jamaica and Guyana (except in 2021-22). India has trade deficit with few other LAC countries like Argentina, Peru, Bolivia and Chile (except 2020-21) from 2018-19 to 2022-23.

India has been consistently facing trade deficit with LAC region since 2011-12, though the deficit is on decline and now stands at (-)4217.9 million in 2022-23.

India's export basket to 13 LAC countries and imports from same are skewed towards few selected commodities. Average share of India's top 10 exports (HS 6-digit) in India's total exports to these 13 LAC countries is 53.6% in 2022-23. Whereas the average share of India's top ten imports (HS 6-digit) in India's total imports from 13 LAC countries is very high i.e. 96.89% in 2022.23. India's top 10 imports are relatively more concentrated compared to its export structure.

There are few commodities which are of utmost significance in India's export basket as these are commonly exported commodities to majority of these 13 LAC countries i.e. HS-87 vehicles other than railways is exported to 13 LAC countries, HS-84 nuclear reactors and boilers are exported to 13 LAC countries, HS-72 iron and steel is exported to 7 LAC countries, HS-30 pharmaceutical products is exported to 12 LAC countries, HS-40 rubber and articles thereof is exported to 9 LAC Countries, HS-38 miscellaneous is exported to 8 LAC countries and chemical products and HS-85 electrical machinery, equipment and parts thereof is exported to 9 countries.

Similarly, few commodities are important in India's imports from these LAC Countries as these commodities are commonly imported from these countries i.e. HS-72 Iron and steel is imported from 12 LAC countries, HS-84 nuclear reactors and boilers is imported from 8 LAC countries, HS-76 aluminum and articles is imported from 10 LAC countries, HS-44 wood and articles of wood is imported from 8 LAC countries, HS-71 natural pears is imported from 8 LAC countries, HS-26 ores, slag and ash is imported from 7 LAC countries.

There are few steps which India should take in order to enhance its trade ties with Latin American and Caribbean region. The current trade between India and LAC is around USD 40 billion and just a handful of few selected commodities. So, there is need for trade diversification. India should explore the new unexplored areas and yet untapped markets of LAC region. Potential export commodities need to be identified for LAC market in order to boost India's exports to the region.



Since India's imports are dominant in few commodities, there is need to build domestic capabilities in products of high imports dependence. This would help to curtail India's trade deficit with LAC countries.

The trade ties between the two regions are still in nascent stage owing to large tariff and non-tariff barriers. Therefore, it is pertinent for the governments to implement array of policy instruments in order to reduce the business costs between the two regions. With the number of reforms geared towards reduction of trade costs, bilateral trade between the two regions is likely to touch USD 50 billion by 2025.

Wider coverage of trade and investment agreements, converting existing preferential trade agreements into Free Trade Agreements, developing business networks and boosting investments in infrastructure can act as a catalyst to increase the trade ties between India and LAC region. There is a need to strengthen the economic relations with signing of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the LAC region.

Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region holds growing significance for India in light of changing dynamics in recent times i.e. rising imports of edible oils from Argentina and Brazil after war in Ukraine, its growing ties with Brazil, Argentina and Mexico due to their membership of G-20 and increasing exports of minerals and petroleum by LAC region to India.

The renewed push to augment the linkages between the two regions is also evident from increased bilateral visits by the ministers of the two regions. Through these bilateral talks, there is immense scope to increase cooperation in new areas like energy, infrastructure development, pharmaceuticals, health, defense and technology. The new areas would help to diversify India's trade with LAC countries and also provide access to new markets that have hitherto remained unexplored.



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Notes



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