

Trade talks with US, EU to conclude soon: Sitharaman

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Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday said that the trade talks with the United States (US) and the European Union (EU) are likely to end soon, assuring exporters of government support amid the challenging global environment.

“Intense trade negotiations are going on with the US and the European Union and should come to a conclusion sooner. Emphasis is being made on getting more free trade agreements signed,” Sitharaman said at Exim Bank’s Trade Conclave 2025 in New Delhi. The FM pointed out that India’s total exports have touched an all-time high of \$825 billion at 6 per cent growth over the previous year, despite a challenging global environment. “This is a significant leap of \$466 billion over 2013-14,” Sitharaman said.

She lauded the grit and perseverance of Indian exporters, acknowledging their continued success despite challenging global conditions. “Despite that, I appreciate the Indian exporters putting in that kind of an effort, that they are still growing and finding real success. And therefore, on this particular occasion, I take this opportunity to congratulate all those exporters who have received their awards, but for those who have not received their awards, you’re really swimming against the current and succeeding in it,” she said.

She further assured exporters of continued government support. “All support from the Government



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of India is all that I can assure you, because we need to do that more.”

The FM further highlighted that global trade was slipping, with institutions such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and World Bank projecting a decline. “Global growth in trade has suffered,” she said.

The FM’s comments have come at a time when India is looking to deepen its export base while navigating an uncertain global economic climate brought about by US President Donald Trump’s tariffs and geopolitical uncertainties.

Sitharaman reiterated the government’s commitment to supporting exporters through improved access to finance and structural reforms. “The government will give all support to exporters. Every year, we have had serious challenges in global trade,” Sitharaman said.