



# Convergence towards regional integration between the EU and India: Trade implications for India and UK

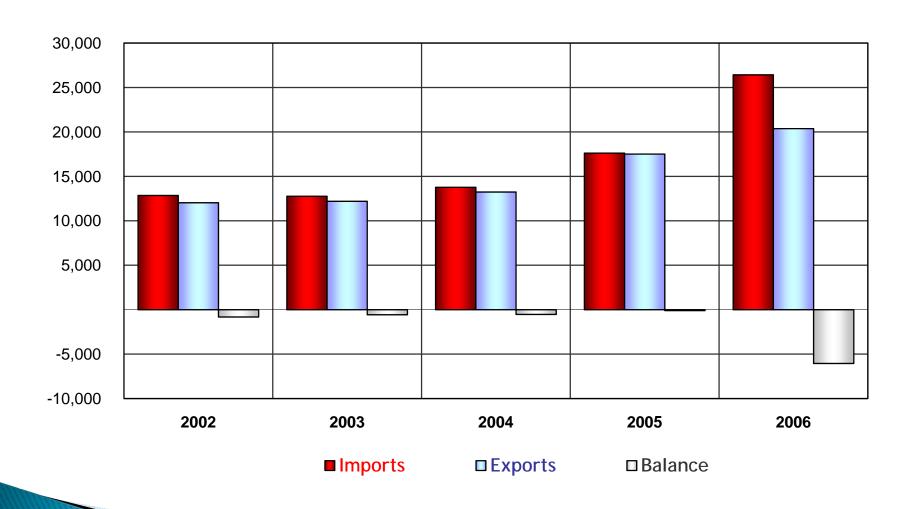
### Organisation

- Context of research
- Main research agenda
- Methodology
- Main findings
- Issues for discussion

# Background

- Growing importance of trade between EU,UK and India
- India is UK's 3<sup>rd</sup> largest trade partner
- ▶ EU-India FTA negotiations are underway
- Explicit recognition of differences in administrative and regulatory regimes

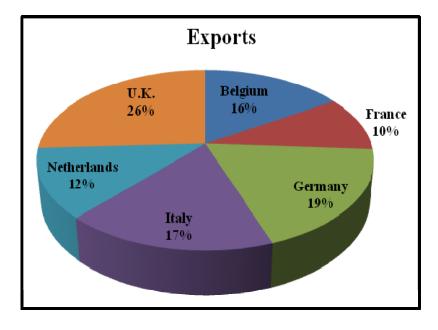
#### Evolution of India's trade with EU



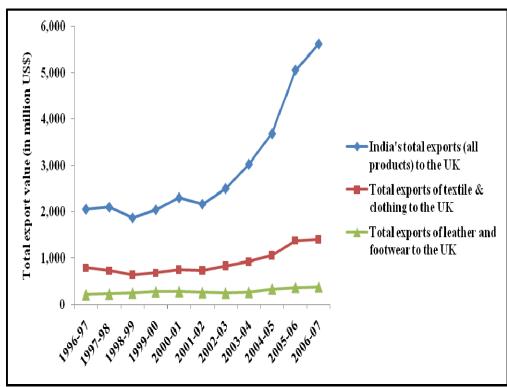
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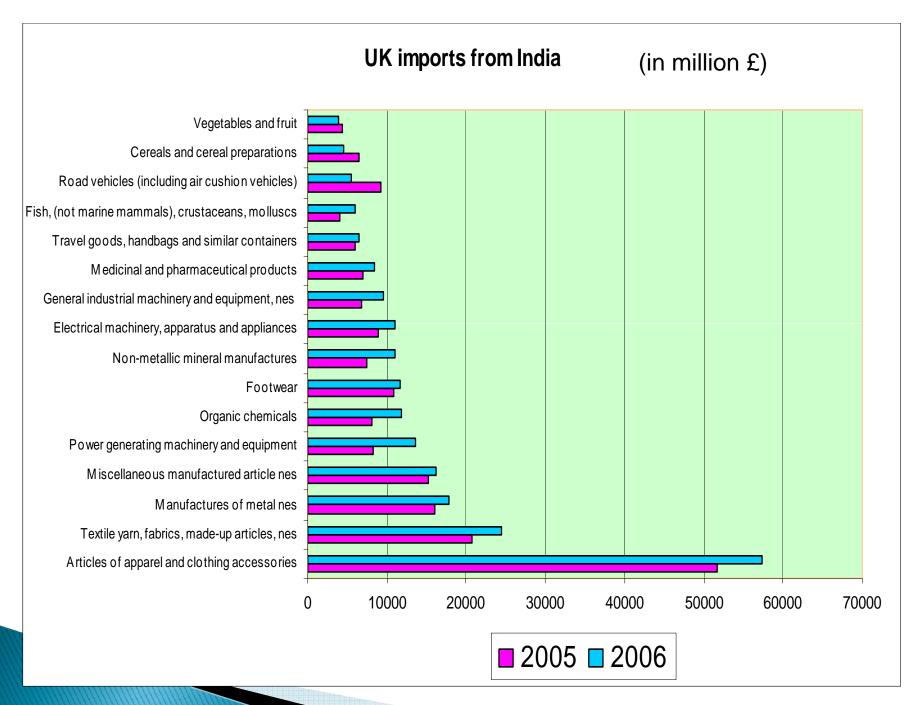
#### India's exports

India's main export destinations in the EU (2006-07)



#### Overview of India's exports - T&C, L&F (1996-97 to 2006-07)





### Main objectives of research

- Identification of NTBs that impede trade between the UK and India in the goods sector.
- Evaluation of differences in regulatory regimes and administrative hurdles in the goods sector.
- Suggest modalities to reduce the impact of NTBs in bilateral trade in the target product groups.

### Methodology

- Two phased research
  - India and UK
- Selection of sample
  - Top 5% firms contacted
  - Personal meetings and interviews
- Combine qualitative & quantitative methods to assess perceptions of exporters to NTBs

## Indian exporters' perspective

- NTBs are a major concern
- Customs delays / documentation formalities
- Regulatory requirements vary among EU Member States
  - Health and safety standards
  - Environmental regulations and compliance
  - Testing and certification requirements
  - Labelling
  - Packaging requirements
- Domestic barriers:
  - High transport costs
  - Lack of adequate infrastructure
  - Corruption

#### **UK** perspective

- Institutional and domestic environment are an issue
  - Customs delays
  - Internal domestic barriers in India:
    - Inadequate infrastructure / port congestion
    - Pilferage / corruption
    - Limited capacity of Indian T&C industry inability to deliver on time

#### We solicit your views on

- ▶ Have we missed anything?
- ▶ Addressing the incidence of NTBs can be through:
  - Capacity building is vital
  - EU standards vs private standards
  - Mutual recognition
  - Rules of origin