

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 715
ANSWERED ON 07/02/2024

IMEC CORRIDOR

715. SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the share of our Country for the new IMEC Corridor-(India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor);
- (b) the details of the funds the country has invested for this Corridor;
- (c) the details of the benefits that are likely to be achieved by our Country from this Corridor;
- (d) the expected returns/profits to our country from this Corridor;
- (e) whether this Corridor is likely to get affect due to the ongoing Israel-Hamas war and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government has any prospects regarding positive and negative effects of this Corridor and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (d) On the sidelines of the G20 Leaders' Summit, India, European Union, France, Germany, Italy, Saudi Arabia, UAE and USA announced an MoU on 9th September 2023 committing to work together to develop a new India-Middle East- Europe Economic Corridor(IMEC).

IMEC is aimed at unlocking greater investment for infrastructure development and strengthening connectivity in its various dimensions between India, the Middle East and Europe. IMEC is comprised of two separate corridors, the east corridor connecting India to the Arabian Gulf and the northern corridor connecting the Arabian Gulf to Europe. It includes a railway route

that, upon completion, will provide a reliable and cost-effective cross-border ship-to-rail transit network to supplement existing maritime and road transport routes – enabling goods and services to transit to, from, and between India, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel and Europe.

The IMEC is expected to stimulate economic development through enhanced connectivity and economic integration between Asia, the Arabian Gulf, and Europe. The proposed railway route, upon its completion, is likely to provide a reliable and cost-effective cross-border ship-to-rail transit network to supplement existing maritime and road-transport routes, enabling faster transit of goods and services to, from and between India, the Middle East and Europe. Along the railway route, it is intended to enable the laying of cable for electricity and digital connectivity, as well a pipeline for clean hydrogen export. This corridor will secure regional supply chains, increase trade accessibility, improve trade facilitation, and support an increased emphasis on environmental social, and government impacts, the corridor will increase efficiencies, reduce costs, enhance economic unity, generate jobs, and lower greenhouse gas emissions – resulting in a transformative integration of Asia, Europe and the Middle East.

(e) & (f) Government is mindful of the current geo-political situation and various IMEC partners are consulting each other on various aspects of the IMEC initiative.
