

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2963  
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2001  
EXPANSION OF BILATERAL TRADE  
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

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- (a) whether the Government have decided to expand bilateral trade with some foreign countries; (
  - (b) if so, the names of such countries with objectives; (
  - (c) whether such expansion will hit the domestic market in any manner; (
  - (d) if so, the details thereof with preventive steps to be taken in this regard; and (
  - (e) if not, the steps to be taken to continue the process of expansion with other foreign countries?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ( SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH )

- ( a ) The Government has always endeavored to expand bilateral trade with all the countries in the world except those with whom trade is banned.
- ( b ) The Government has entered into bilateral agreements with various countries to increase trade with them.
- ( c ) & ( d ) : The objectives of the bilateral trade are broadly to meet each other's requirements and mutual benefits. Since expansion of bilateral trade is for mutual benefit, no adverse effect on the domestic market is apprehended. However, provisions like anti-dumping duty, customs tariffs etc. are available to prevent unfair practices.
- ( e ) : In order to expand trade with various countries, the Government has initiated several measures which include regular review of trade issues with various countries through meetings of the Joint Commissions, Working Groups and Joint Business Councils, broad-basing the basket of tradable goods, evolving mechanism for banking and trade institutions, participation in trade fairs, exhibitions and buyer-seller meets, exchange of delegations and sharing of economic and commercial information, etc.