

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1763  
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2003  
VISIT OF TRADE DELEGATION TO KAZAKHSTAN  
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether a trade delegation from Kazakhstan recently visited India to discuss the possibilities of improving the trade relations between the two countries;
- (b) whether the delegation impressed upon the Indian industry about the possibility of investment and trade especially in the sectors such as energy, pharmaceutical, leather and light engineering because of the rich minerals in that country which could be exploited to the advantage of both the countries;
- (c) if so, whether the Government have examined the offer made by Kazakhstan; and
- (d) the extent to which the Government propose to expand its investment and trade with that country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a & b) : Yes, Sir.

(c): These discussions were held at the business to business level and presently there is no proposal under consideration of the Government in this regard.

(d): It has been Government's endeavour to expand bilateral trade relations with the CIS Countries including Kazakhstan. With a view to giving further impetus to this intention, Focus: CIS Programme was launched as a part of EXIM Policy 2003. The 'Focus: CIS Programme' aims to focus at the countries of the CIS region with emphasis in the first phase on seven countries including Kazakhstan. Details of the programme are available on Department's website, [www.commerce.nic.in](http://www.commerce.nic.in) under the head 'Trade Promotion Programmes'.