

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2129
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000
INDO-US COMMERCIAL DIALOGUE
SADASHVRAO DADODA MANDLIK;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether the Government have signed a document with USD Secretary of Commerce to launch the Indo-US Commercial Dialogue for expanding economic cooperation between the two countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the trade between the two countries is likely to be improved;
- (d) whether all the hurdles in respect of trade have been fully settled;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether any Indo-US Joint Commission has been set up to facilitate early disposal of the trade agreements;
- (g) if so, the time by which the agreements are likely to be implemented; and
- (h) the details of action plan for the current year for improving trade and economic cooperation between Indo-US along with the projected growth, sector-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The two sides have agreed to set up India-US Commercial Dialogue which was signed on 23.3.2000. The framework aims to (a) facilitate trade (b) maximise investment opportunities across a broad range of economic sectors, including information technology, infrastructure, biotechnology and services.
- (c) While no precise figures can be provided, it is anticipated that the Commercial Dialogue will facilitate the further expansion of Indo-US trade to mutual benefit.
- (d) & (e) In any bilateral trade relationship, emergence and resolution of disputes is an ongoing process. Several hurdles in respect of Indo-US trade have been satisfactorily overcome and there remain areas of dispute that are yet to be resolved.
- (f) No, Sir.
- (g) Does not arise.
- (h) The Annual Action Plan for the current year seeks to further develop India's exports to the US and exploit their considerable untapped potential. Sectors of special focus for Indian exports include items where our exports have done well in recent years as well as those with high export growth potential.