GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1516 ANSWERED ON:16.07.2004 INDIA CHINA BILATERAL TRADE Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

(a) whether India China bilateral trade has touched an all time high of \$7.598 billion in 2003, by 53.6% over the previous year;

(b) whether India's export to China rose sharply by 86.9% and the country's imports from China increased by a modest 25.1% in 2003;

(c) if so, what are the steps Government propose to improve further trade with China; and

(d) the extent to which these efforts would be helpful in improving the trade between two countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) & (b) : India-China trade data for April-February 2003-04, compared to the corresponding period of 2002-03 is as follows :-

(US\$ MILLION)

2002-03(Apr-Feb) 2003-04 (Apr-Feb) %age growth

Export 1693.46 2496.81 47.44% Import 2527.17 3611.16 42.89% Total 4220.63 6107.97 44.71%

(Source : DGCI&S)

(c) & (d) : Steps being taken, on an on-going basis, for increasing India-China trade include participation in trade fairs/exhibitions, exchange of delegations at both governmental and business levels, etc.. These steps have helped in improving the trade between the two countries and are expected to yield positive results in future too.