

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2599

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2006

INDO -RUSSIA TRADE

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether India and Russia has signed a protocol on Moscow`s accession to the World Trade Organisation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any agreement has been signed to facilitate higher import of Indian tea and tobacco;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Russia has also agreed to open market for bovine meat; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

a) & (b) Yes sir, India and Russia signed on 6 Feb. 2006 a Bilateral Agreement in the context of Russia`s accession to the World Trade Organisation. The Agreement covers Russian Market Access offers in Goods and Services and an Understanding on Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

(c) & (d) No, Sir.

(e) & (f) India and Russia have signed an Understanding on Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures according to which the Russian side will review its current sanitary measures on imports of bovine meat originating from India with a view to bringing them in conformity with relevant international standards, guidelines and recommendations.