

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3766
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005
ROTTERDAM CONVENTION
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to ratify the Rotterdam Convention relating to International trade of certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides;
- (b) whether the Government has convened any meeting prior to ratifying it;
- (c) if so, the details of the discussions held and decisions arrived at; and
- (d) the follow - up action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): A Core Group was formed by the Ministry of Environment & Forests to advise the Government on matters pertaining to Rotterdam Convention for an international legally binding instrument for the application of the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade. The Core Group comprised various Ministries/Departments and Industry representatives. The Group after discussing the issues related to this Convention unanimously agreed to accede to this Convention.

Also, the concerned Ministries concurred the proposal. The Union Cabinet approved the proposal for ratifying/acceding the Convention. Instrument of accession has been sent to the Ministry of External Affairs for deposition at the United Nations Headquarters, New York.