

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2401
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2005
COMMITTEE ON TRADE AGREEMENT
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

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

e:

- (a) whether the trade and economic relations committee has reviewed the various trade agreements at its meeting held recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be implemented;
- (c) whether any decision to formulate employment oriented policy was also taken in the said meeting; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Trade and Economic Relations Committee (TERC) headed by the Prime Minister met in the month of June, 2005 where a presentation on `India`s engagement in Regional Trading Arrangements ` was made by Department of Commerce. With regard to Preferential Trade Agreements/Free Trade Agreements/Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreements, it was decided that the progress of ongoing negotiations be periodically reported to the TERC for its guidance and discussion papers be prepared for enhancement of the level of economic engagement with Bangladesh, Pakistan, BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical & Economic Cooperation) and ASEAN.

Various discussion papers on enhancement of level of economic engagement with Bangladesh, Pakistan and BIMSTEC have been prepared as per the time frame prescribed by TERC.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.