

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:605
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2004
TRADE WITH CIS
Singh Shri Dushyant

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

- (a) whether there is a vast scope to promote country's trade with Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS);
- (b) whether any trade plan has been formulated by his Ministry with the CIS for 2004-05 or for coming years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a): Yes Sir

(b)&(c): With a view to enhance India's trade with countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States, a programme 'Focus: CIS' was launched on 31st March 2003 at the time of announcement of EXIM Policy for the year 2003-2004. In the first phase, emphasis of the Programme was on seven countries, viz. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan & Ukraine. The scope of the Programme has been extended w.e.f. April 2004, to cover all the 12 CIS countries i.e. Russian Federation, Armenia, Georgia, Belarus & Moldova alongwith Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan & Ukraine.

The programme aims to increase interaction between the business entities of the two regions by identifying areas of bilateral trade and investment. The exports to the Region are envisaged to be enhanced through combined efforts of Government of India, India Trade Promotion Organisation, Export Promotion Councils, Apex Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Indian Missions and Institutions such as EXIM Bank, Export credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) etc.

Details of the programme are available on Department's website, www.commerce.nic.in under the head 'Trade Promotion Programme'.