

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:144  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010  
ASEAN AGREEMENT ON SERVICES  
Mani Shri Jose K.;Vivekanand Dr. G.

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently held talks with Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries for the import and export of services as per the ASEAN agreement signed in 2009 and operationalised from January, 2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the ASEAN countries have advocated a single pact with India on opening services and investment for faster growth in trade;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the commitments made under the trade in goods agreement are being implemented; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

a)to f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 144 FOR ANSWER ON 8TH MARCH 2010 REGARDING "ASEAN AGREEMENT ON SERVICES"

- (a)& (b) Under the Framework Agreement on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation between India and the ASEAN, the Trade in Goods Agreement was signed on August 13, 2009. Subsequently, three rounds of negotiations for India-ASEAN Services and Investment Agreement have been held and the next round of negotiation is scheduled for April, 2010.
- (c) India and ASEAN have agreed to negotiate for agreements on Services and Investments as a single undertaking.
- (d) The negotiations on the modalities of liberalizing Services and Investment between India and ASEAN are underway.
- (e) & (f) The India-ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement has come into force with effect from 1st January,2010 in respect of India, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand.