

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1220

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2010

NEGOTIATIONS FOR INDIA EU FTA

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Haque Shri Sk. Saidul;Mohan Shri Malik Sakti;Roy Shri Mahendra Kumar

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

- (a) whether the multilateral talks under the WTO are in the public domain while the FTA negotiations are shrouded in secrecy;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the EU wants Indian market to be opened for heavily subsidized EU farm products and wants the patent and copyright regime `strengthened`;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the details regarding discussions of negotiations with State Governments and in Parliament before signing the said FTA?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

a): No, Madam.

b): Does not arise.

c) & d): Negotiations for an India EU Broad based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) are still ongoing. At this stage, the final positions in all tracks of the negotiations are still to emerge.

e) Government consults all stakeholders including State Governments, stake holding Ministries/Departments, Industries, Associations, Export Promotion Councils etc. in order to develop India's negotiation strategy which is an ongoing process till the agreement is concluded.