

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2779  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011  
INDIAN COMPANIES IN EGYPT  
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal;Viswanathan Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has made any assessment on the Indian companies in Egypt in view of turmoil there;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the Government of India is helping Indian companies to meet the crisis in Egypt;
- (c) whether it is true that the industry associations are foreseeing blocking of Suez Canal which is the primary link between Asia and Europe;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the likely impact on Indian Industry and the corrective steps being taken in this regard; and
- (f) the details of bilateral trade between India and Egypt?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. The Embassy of India, Egypt, was operating a twenty-four hour Control Room and contacted all the companies partly or wholly owned by Indians or NRIs in Egypt to assess whether they had suffered any damage. The Indian owners of those Companies who wanted to temporarily leave Egypt were helped by the Embassy by arranging special Air India aircraft. Further, the Embassy also took up the cases of those Indian Companies who had apprehensions about their security or unreasonable demands from disgruntled local elements with the Egyptian Trade & Industry Ministry, the Egyptian General Authority for Foreign Investment and also with the Egyptian Armed Forces. The Egyptian authorities deployed army vehicles and army personnel at the factory premises of few Indian Companies at the request of Indian Mission there. Some of the Indian companies temporarily shut their operations for lack of raw material or for the fear of labour unrest or out of security concern while some continued their operations at a reduced scale. Most of the Indian companies have restarted their operations by now.

(c): No, Madam.

(d) & (e): Do not arise.

(f): The details of the bilateral trade between India and Egypt are as per the Statement annexed.