

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4298
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011
AGREEMENT WITH EU
Tagore Shri Manicka

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

- (a) whether a bilateral trade and investment agreements between India and the European Union has been signed recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a joint study group has been constituted by these two groups for a free trade pact for common market in Eastern and Southern Africa; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) The Government of India is negotiating a bilateral Broad Based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) with the European Union (EU). So far thirteen rounds of negotiations have been held. The 13th round of negotiations was held in March-April, 2011. Negotiations are at an advanced and delicate stage with both sides are moving towards finding a common landing zone which meets the objective of a balanced and fair agreement.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise.