

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4048
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2011
COOPERATION WITH USA
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has sought cooperation from United States of America for manufacturing of expensive and high –end quality products and improvement in the education sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of Government of USA in this regard;
- (c) whether technological assistance has been sought from Israel for setting up certain projects in India under the Indo- Israel Action Plan;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and project-wise; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government of Israel in this regard ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): India and US have established several bilateral mechanisms for increasing cooperation in different sectors, including manufacturing and education. Some of these are listed below:

- # India-US Trade Policy Forum
- # Joint Working Group in the field of Information and Communications Technology
- # High Technology Cooperation Group
- # India US CEOs Forum
- # India-US Education Dialogue

These Groups have made suggestions to both countries for enhancing cooperation in the different sectors

(c): Yes, Madam.

(d): An Indo-Israel Agriculture Work Plan was signed during the visit of Agriculture Minister to Israel in May 2006 and an Action Plan (2008-2010) was agreed upon in January 2008. The action plan 2008-10 was implemented in the states of Haryana and Maharashtra. Funds for the following projects were sanctioned under the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) and technical inputs from Israel.

Haryana : An amount of Rs.15.70crore was sanctioned under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for implementation of following projects under Indo-Israel Action Plan (2008 - 10) in the State of Haryana:

- Centre of Excellence for fruits at Sirsa - Rs.9.70 Crore.
- Centre of Excellence for Vegetables at Karnal - Rs.6.00 Crore.

Maharashtra: An amount of Rs.15.48crore was sanctioned under National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for implementation of following projects under Indo-Israel Action Plan (2008-10) in the State of Maharashtra:

- Centre of Excellence for Mango at Ratnagiri - Rs. 6.36 crore
- Centre of Excellence for Citrus at Akola - Rs. 4.54 crore.
- Centre of Excellence for Pomegranate at Rahuri - Rs. 4.58 crore

Good progress was achieved during the implementation of Action Plan from January 2008 to December 2010. A number of technologies in the field of horticulture mechanization, protected cultivation, orchard and canopy management, nursery management, micro-irrigation and PHM were achieved through visit of Israeli Experts in the States of Haryana and Maharashtra. During this phase, elite planting material /varieties of fruits and machinery was also imported from Israel. The experts from Israel trained the officers and farmers from these States on above mentioned fields during the 1st phase of implementation. A number of officers from States (57 nos.) were trained in Israel during this period.

(e): Government of Israel has extended full co-operation during this period in the implementation of Indo – Israel Agriculture Action Plan and has also agreed for second phase of action plan for further strengthening and widening the scope of bilateral cooperation in

agriculture between the two countries by another three years.