

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1584
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2009
LOOK EAST POLICY
Meinya Dr. Thokchom

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to revamp the `Look East Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is also negotiating to conclude a Free Trade Agreement with the ASEAN as envisaged In the `Look East` Polley;
- (d) If so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the progress made so far In this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) & (b) The `Look East Polley` of the Government of India has been evolving since early 1990s with Inputs from different Departments of the Government and we have been able to significantly deepen our engagement with ASEAN and other countries of South and East Asia. Exchange of high level visits and enhanced levels of bilateral trade and Investment give frequent opportunities to upgrade the framework and content of the Look East Polley on a regular basis.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (e) As part of Free Trade Agreement with ASEAN, the text of Trade-In-Goods Agreement has been Onalized. Discussions on agreements In Investment and Services are to commence soon.