

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2329
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012
TRADE WITH CANADA
Ramkishun Shri

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

- (a) whether India and Canada propose to enter into a bilateral Free Trade Agreement;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposed agreement; and
- (c) the extent to which India is likely to be benefited by this agreement?

Answer

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

a) & b): India and Canada have commenced negotiations towards a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) covering Trade in Services, Trade in Goods, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Rules of Origin, Technical Barriers to Trade etc. Five rounds of negotiations have already taken place. The fifth round of CEPA negotiations between India and Canada was held recently in New Delhi from 24th to 26th July, 2012.

c): Before the commencement of CEPA negotiations with Canada, a Joint Study Group (JSG) was established in November, 2010. The JSG undertook a detailed study of bilateral economic relationship between the two countries and also identified the possible economic impact of trade liberalization and estimated Gross Domestic Product (GDP) gains ranging from US \$ 6 to US \$ 12 billion for India.