

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6789

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2013

AGREEMENT WITH GERMANY

Bauri Smt. Susmita;Chaudhary Shri Arvind Kumar;Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar;Putul Kumari Smt.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has signed agreements to enhance cooperation with Germany in development projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether both the countries have agreed to reduce import duties; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of existing hurdles in trade cooperation between the two countries?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh paid a bilateral visit to Germany on 10-12 April 2013 to participate in the second round of Inter Governmental Consultations with Germany. During the visit, the following Agreements/MOUs were signed in the presence of the Prime Minister and German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel. Some other MoU's/ JDoI's were signed on the sidelines of the visit:

- i. Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the field of Higher Education.
- ii. Joint Declaration of Intent regarding Promotion of German as a foreign language in India.
- iii. Joint Declaration of Intent on Indo-German Development Cooperation Regarding the Establishment of Green Energy Corridors.
- iv. Joint Declaration of Intent on Indo-German Cooperation on Civil Security Research.
- v. Joint Declaration of Intent on development of Seeds.
- vi. Joint Declaration of Intent on the Establishment of an Indo-German Working Group on Quality Infrastructure for Cooperation in Standardization, Conformity Assessment and Product Safety.

(c) & (d) Discussions covered the entire gamut of bilateral relations, including economic and trade related issues. No specific agreement was reached on import duties.