

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1079

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013

FTA WITH EU

Bundela Shri Jeetendra Singh;Kalmadi Shri Suresh;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao;Venugopal Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Government is negotiating any Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the European Union and if so, the details of the ongoing negotiations and issues discussed therein along with the present status thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has accommodated the demands of the domestic industries in the proposed FTA with European Union and if so, the details of the sectors which are likely to be benefited/adversely affected after the signing of the said FTA;
- (c) the details of the total trade carried out between India and the European Union during each of the last three years and the current year and the target set for the next three years, if any;
- (d) whether India is likely to discuss the issues related to duty cut in the automobile sector and implementing the EU regime of patent and intellectual property rights rules under the proposed FTA and if so, the likely impact of this agreement on the domestic industry; and
- (e) whether the above said agreement is in violation of India's agreement with the World Trade Organisation on intellectual property rights and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and if not, the facts in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b) The Government of India is negotiating a bilateral Broad Based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) with the European Union (EU) and negotiations were launched in Brussels on 28-29 June, 2007 based on the recommendations of the High Level Trade Group at the 7th India-EU Summit in October, 2006 in Helsinki. Negotiations across a number of tracks including Trade in Goods, Trade in Services, Investment, Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures, Technical Barriers to Trade, Trade Remedies, Government Procurement, Customs Cooperation and Trade Facilitation, Dispute Settlement, Competition and Intellectual Property Rights etc. are underway. So far fifteen rounds of negotiations have been held. Final positions are to emerge as the negotiations across various sectors are ongoing. Government consults stakeholders including State Governments, relevant Ministries/Departments, Industries, Associations, Export Promotion Councils etc. in order to develop India's negotiation strategy on a continuous basis as and when required. It is expected that greater trade and investment flows will result from this Agreement.

(c) The details of total trade between India and European Union during the last three years and current year are given below:-

US \$ Millions				
	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (Apr-June)
Export	46077.64	52603.10	50456.99	11664.80
Import	44539.93	58475.24	52461.19	12619.23
Total	90617.57	111078.34	102918.18	24284.03

(d) & (e) Negotiations across numbers of tracks including automobile sector and intellectual property rights are going on. As is consistent with previous and established practice in ongoing negotiations, disclosures before finalisation of the Agreement may adversely affect India's position in the negotiations.