

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2617

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

- (a) whether India has participated in the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, 2013;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the agenda of the said meet and the issues discussed during the said meet;
- (c) whether a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between India and the Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation have been taken during the said meet;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the time likely to be taken in ratification of the said agreements; and
- (e) whether the Government has insisted upon having equal intra corporate transfer norms with the European Union countries and if so, the details and the present status thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b): The agenda for the meet was as follows:
  - (i) The 4th India-Russia Business Dialogue; (ii) Presentation on Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor highlighting the opportunities available for Russian companies in the infrastructure sector; (iii) Meeting of the India-Russia CEOs Council; (iv) Panel discussion on "BRICS Partnership – The Potential and Limitations in Global Stewardship"; (v) Issues relating to promotion of bilateral investment and trade.
- (c): No, Madam.
- (d): Does not arise
- (e): Department of Commerce is negotiating a bilateral Broad Based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) with the European Union (EU) 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. Final positions are to emerge as the negotiations across various sectors are ongoing. As is consistent with previous and established practice in ongoing negotiations, disclosures before finalization of the Agreement may adversely affect India's position in the negotiations.