

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4116
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP WITH JAPAN
Mani Shri Jose K.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has entered into any negotiation with Japan for an economic partnership agreement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any task force has been constituted to speed up the negotiations; and
- (d) if so, the present status thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) India and Japan decided to launch negotiations for the conclusion of a bilateral Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in December 2006. A Joint Task Force was constituted to undertake the inter-governmental negotiations, which commenced in January 2007 and were concluded after fourteen rounds in September 2010. In October 2010, the Prime Ministers of the two countries declared the successful conclusion of negotiations for the India-Japan CEPA. The CEPA was signed on 16th February 2011 and became effective from 1st August 2011.