

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:304  
ANSWERED ON:11.07.2014  
FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS  
Azad Shri Kirti (JHA)

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

- (a) the countries with which India has entered into Free Trade Agreements (FTAs);
- (b) whether the Government proposes to enter into new FTAs, or review the existing FTAs for enhancing trade, cooperation and investments and if so, the details there of and the time likely to be taken to conclude the ongoing negotiations;
- (c) the total trade (import/export) with India's FTA, partner countries during each of the last three years and the current year, country and commodity-wise;
- (d) whether any study/assessment has been made by the Government regarding the impact of these FTAs on the balance of trade, domestic manufacturing sector, services and investments and providing long term sustainable benefits to India and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the safeguard measures taken by the Government while negotiating the FTAs?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) The details of countries with which India has entered into Free Trade Agreement (FTA) are given below:

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No.	Name of the Agreement and the participating countries	Date of Signing	Date of Implementation
1.	India - Bhutan Agreement on Trade, Commerce and Transit (Agreement is renewed, from time to time, by mutual consent to such changes and modifications as may be agreed upon between the two countries)	17.01.1972	29.07.2006 (revised on 28.07.2006)
2.	Revised Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade (The Treaty is amended/ modified by mutual consent of the contracting parties and the present Treaty is valid till 26.10.2016)	06.12.1991	27.10.2009 (Revised on 27.10.2009)
3.	India - Sri Lanka FTA	28.12.1998	01.03.2000
4.	Agreement on South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) (India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Maldives and Afghanistan) are applicable to Afghanistan w.e.f. 07.08.2011).	04.01.2004	01.01.2006 (Afghanistan became Eighth Member of SAARC from April, 2007 and the provisions of Trade Liberalization Programme)
5.	India - Thailand FTA - Early Harvest Scheme (EHS)	09.10.2003	01.09.2004
6.	India - Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)	29.06.2005	01.08.2005
7.	India - South Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)	07.08.2009	01.01.2010

8. India - ASEAN Trade in Goods Agreement (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) of India and Malaysia, 1st June 2010 in respect of India and Vietnam. of India and Myanmar. 1st October 2010 in respect of India and Indonesia. 1st November, 2010 in respect of India and Brunei. 24 January 2011 in respect of India and Laos. 1st June 2011 in respect of India and the Philippines. 1st August, 2011 in respect of India and Cambodia.
9. India - Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement 16.02.2011 01.08.2011
10. India - Malaysia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement 18.02.2011 01.07. 2011

In addition to the above-mentioned FTAs, India has signed Preferential Trade Agreement (limited tariff lines with Margin of Preference i.e. percentage of Tariff concession) with the following countries:

- S.
- | No. | Name of the Agreement and the participating countries  | Date of Signing | Date of Implementation                              |
|-----|--|-----------------|---|
| 1   | Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) (Bangladesh, China, India, Lao PDR, Republic of Korea, and Sri Lanka) signed on  | July, 1975      | 01.11.1976 (revised Agreement signed on 02.11.2005) |
| 2   | Global System of Trade Preferences (G S T P) (Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People`s Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe) | April, 1988     | April,1989  |
| 3   | India - Afghanistan PTA  | 06.03.2003      | May, 2003   |
| 4   | India - MERCOSUR PTA   | 25.01.2004      | 01.06.2009  |
| 5   | India - Chile PTA  | 08.03. 2006     | August, 2007  |

(b) The Government is negotiating new FTAs, including expansion/review of some of the existing FTAs:

- S. No. Name of the Agreement
- 1 India - EU Broad Based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom)
  - 2 India - ASEAN CECA - Services and Investment Agreement (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam)
  - 3 India - Sri Lanka CEPA
  - 4 India - Thailand CECA
  - 5 India - Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA)
  - 6 India EFTA BTIA (Iceland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Switzerland)
  - 7 India - New Zealand FTA/CECA
  - 8 India - Israel FTA
  - 9 India - Singapore CECA (Second Review)
  - 10 India - South African Custom Union (SACU) Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) (South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Namibia)
  - 11 India - MERCOSUR PTA (expansion) (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay)
  - 12 India - Chile PTA (expansion)
  - 13 BIMSTEC CECA

- (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Bhutan and Nepal)
- 14 India - Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Framework Agreement  
(Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Yemen)
- 15 India - Canada CEPA
- 16 India - Indonesia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)
- 17 India - Australia FTA / CECA
18. Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Agreement among ASEAN (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) + 6 FTA Partners (Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea and New Zealand)

India has been engaged at different stages of negotiations with these countries and blocs. The conclusion of negotiations depends on agreements on all the issues by the partner countries.

(c) Total trade (import/export) with India's FTA partner countries during each of the last three years is given in the Annexure.

(d) & (e): Impact evaluation of FTAs is a continuous process which starts even before FTA negotiations are entered into. Before entering into negotiations with its trading partners, studies are undertaken internally, as well as through the Joint Study Group (JSG) to study the feasibility of the proposed FTAs, including their impact on the domestic stakeholders including the Apex Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Industry Associations as well as the Administrative Ministries and Departments. In order to protect the interest of the domestic industry and agriculture sector, these agreements provide for maintaining sensitive/negative lists of items on which limited or no tariff concessions are granted under the FTA. In addition, in case of a surge in imports and injury to the domestic industry, a country is allowed to take recourse to the measures such as anti-dumping and safeguards. Every FTA has a joint review mechanism which monitors the implementation of the FTA. India's trade and economic relations with all its FTA partners have increased substantially.