

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4405
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2014
INDO EU FTA
Mahajan Smt. Poonam

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

- (a) whether the European Union is demanding duty cuts in automobiles, tax reduction in wines and spirits and dairy products in order to accept the proposed Free Trade Agreement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has adequately pitched the need for liberalised visa norms for Indian professionals; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) The Government of India is presently negotiating a bilateral Board Based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) with the European Union (EU), covering a number of tracks ranging from Trade in Goods to Services including automobiles, wines & spirits, dairy products, etc. So far fifteen rounds of negotiations have been held, the last being in May 2013 in New Delhi. Since, then EU has largely disengaged from the negotiation.