

[16 July, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(e) the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (c) As per Annual Special 301 Report for 2002, released by the United States Trade Representative (USTR), India has been retained in the Priority Watch-list along with European Union and 12 other countries. The Report says that India's Patent system is far from complaint with its obligations under the TRIPS Agreement.

(d) and (e) India has undertaken appropriate initiative and has enacted/ amended legislation related to protection of Intellectual Property Rights to meet its obligation under the TRIPS Agreement.

Visit of Canadian Trade Team to India

59. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ:

SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Canadian Trade Team had visited India very recently (April 2002);

(b) if so what was the outcome of the Trade team visit;

(c) the number of Agreements/ MoUs/treaties etc. signed alongwith the details thereof; and

(d) in what manner Indian trades would get boost from these agreements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) Yes Sir, Mr. Pierre Pettigrew, Canadian Minister for International Trade accompanied by a large delegation of businessmen visited India in April 2002. No Agreements were signed between the two Governments but both the countries now have better appreciation of measures required to be taken for increasing bilateral trade.