

(d) whether similar agreements were signed with China after talks were held between officials of India and China; and

(e) if so, to what extent trade agreements will improve trade relations with China and Japan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) An informal meeting at working level between Japanese delegation and Indian delegation was held on 29th January, 2010 in New Delhi. During the informal meeting both sides have shown desire to conclude this agreement for their mutual benefit. The next round of India-Japan negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement is to be held in March 2010.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise with China as of now. With Japan the expectations are of substantial increase in Trade in Goods and Services, Investments alongwith higher integration of two economies.

Adverse effect of Indo-ASEAN FTA

587. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a study conducted by the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) stating that the Indo-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (FTA) may cause damage to several key sectors of the Indian economy and adversely hit, particularly the interests of domestic plantation farmers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) ASSOCHAM has released a publication titled 'India — ASEAN FTA: A Major Breakthrough' in February 2010 which has been examined. Comprehensive protection to the plantation and other sensitive sectors has been ensured under the India — ASEAN trade in Goods Agreement.

Strategy to deal with different security threat

†588. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cross border terrorism, naxalites in various part of country, separatists of North-East States can be held responsible for the internal security threat;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.