

Cooperation was signed on 19th January, 2010. According to the MoU, both sides agreed to give special attention to improving the trade situation to ensure greater value addition in their bilateral trade and promote the introduction of additional goods and services in their market. While the Indian side will take conscious initiatives to promote its goods in China, the Chinese side will strive to import as much of its requirement of value added goods from India as possible.

(c) The MoU makes references to encouraging greater collaboration between India & China in IT and Pharmaceutical sectors. EOI Beijing is organizing an IT seminar and business match making event on 26 March, 2010 in Beijing with the partnership of NASSCOM. The Embassy of India, Beijing would also be organizing business events in several Chinese cities in 2010. It is expected that Indian companies specially those in IT/ITES and Pharmaceuticals sectors would participate in these events.

Milan meets convened by Indian Navy

172. SHR SANTOSH BAGRODIA :

SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) what is the purpose of Milan meets convened by Indian Navy;
- (b) how many Milan meets have taken so far;
- (c) the details of the countries participated in such meets; and
- (d) what has been the outcome of such meets?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) to (d) The primary purpose of Milan, the biennial gathering of the Navies of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) hosted by the Indian Navy, is to promote regional cooperation and mutual understanding of maritime issues of common concern. Seven such meets have been held so far, involving a number of navies in the IOR. The swift response of Indian Navy for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief after Tsumani in December 2004, in Indonesia and Sri Lanka, was facilitated partly because of the cooperative linkages established through MILAN.

Producing LHGs Indigenously

173. SHR JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH :

SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has plans to produce indigenously Light Howitzer Guns (LHGs) and its ancillaries in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has produced LHGs from foreign firms during the last two years; and
- (d) if so, the total quantity, prices and names of companies who have supplied LHGs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU) : (a) to (d) No, Sir.