

Ban on by OHIO outsourcing and back office projects from India

167. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ohio's move to ban outsourcing and back office projects to offshore destinations like India is disturbing;

(b) whether Government has taken up this issue with the U.S. Government;

(c) if so, the reaction of the U.S.; and

(d) whether Government is contemplating to take up this issue with the WTO over protectionist measures adopted by the U.S.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) As per the Governor of Ohio's Executive Order, 2010-09S dated 6th August 2010, no Public Funds may be spent on services provided offshore. India has taken up this issue with the US side under the India -US Trade Policy Forum.

Bilateral Free Trade Agreement with Canada

168. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Canada have agreed to enter into bilateral Free Trade Agreement (FTA);

(b) if so, the details of the proposed agreement; and

(c) to what extent India is going to be benefited through the FTA with Canada?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) A India Canada Joint Study Group (JSG), constituted to examine the feasibility of a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between the two countries, has submitted its report. The report has concluded that initiation of negotiations towards a CEPA covering trade in goods, services and other areas of economic cooperation will lead to additional trade flows and economic gains for both countries.