

Trade agreements with USA

*290. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a US business delegation visited India to explore investment opportunities in India during November, 2010;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of discussion and total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) committed thereby in different sectors of the economy along with the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) to (c) A US business delegation visited India during the visit of United States President Barack Obama from 6 to 9 November 2010. The delegation comprised around 226 CEOs/ Presidents of American companies.

The business delegation visited Mumbai and New Delhi and participated in the following business events:

- (i) US-India Business & Entrepreneurship Summit in Mumbai on 6th November, 2010.
- (ii) US-India - an Agenda for Co-Creation on 8th November, 2010.
- (iii) India-US CEOs Forum Meeting in New Delhi on 8th November, 2010.
- (iv) Innovation Conclave, New Delhi on 9th November, 2010.

The discussion primarily centered around enhancing business partnerships and two way trade and investment flows. There are no specific commitments as regards investment flows.

Coverage of Extremism affected districts of Bihar under SRE Scheme

†*291. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in view of the problem of extremism in Bihar, the State Government has sent a proposal to Government to cover the districts like Vaishali, Begusarai, Lakhisarai, Sheohar and Banka under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme, which is pending for sanction;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) whether it is also a fact that the State requires financial assistance to tackle extremism;
- (c) if so, by when the pending proposal would get the requisite sanction; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT):
 (a) and (b) On the basis of violence profile, presently 15 (fifteen) districts of Bihar are, *inter-alia*, included under Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme. The Scheme is meant for reimbursing the expenditure incurred by the State Government on anti-naxal operations.

Government has received a proposal to include 7 (seven) more districts, namely, Vaishali, Begusarai, Lakhisarai, Seohar, Banka, Muzaffarpur and Khagaria of the State of Bihar under SRE Scheme.

(c) and (d) Inclusion of districts under SRE Scheme is a continuous process and no time frame can be indicated.

Tapping of MPs' telephones

*292. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) how many telephone lines were tapped by various Government agencies in the last two years;
- (b) the agency-wise details thereof;
- (c) how many telephones of MPs were tapped by Government agencies in the last three years, year-wise and agency-wise details thereof;
- (d) if MPs' telephones were tapped then what was the minimum/maximum period for which they were tapped; and
- (e) whether the Minister was made aware or his permission was taken before tapping MPs telephones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT):
 (a) and (b) On an average 7500-9000 orders for interception are issued by the Central Government per month. Nine agencies dealing with intelligence and crime investigation have been notified under Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 to seek such authorization.