

formal bilateral trade agreement. India granted the MFN status to Pakistan in the year 1996. Pakistan is yet to reciprocate.

(b) The Composite Dialogue between India and Pakistan, which started in 1998, was continued through 4 rounds of talks by Commerce Secretaries of both countries on “Commercial and Economic Cooperation” during the period 2004-2007.

Bilateral dialogue between the two countries resumed after the two Prime Ministers met on the sidelines of SAARC Summit in Thimphu in April 2010.

Bilateral trade dialogue with Pakistan was re-initiated with the 5th round of India-Pakistan Commerce Secretary level talks on Commercial and Economic Co-operation in April 2011. This was followed by further rounds of talks held in November 2011 at Delhi and September, 2012 at Islamabad. Three Ministerial level dialogues were also held in September 2011, February 2012 and April 2012.

The Commerce Ministers of India and Pakistan met on 18th January 2014 on the sidelines of the 5th SAARC Business Leaders Conclave held at New Delhi. Both Ministers reaffirmed the commitment of their Governments to expeditiously establish normal trading relations and in this context to provide Non-Discriminatory Market Access (NDMA), on a reciprocal basis. Both sides decided to intensify and accelerate the process of trade normalization, liberalization and facilitation and to implement the agreed measures.

Pakistan has moved from ‘Positive List’ regime to a ‘Negative List’ regime comprising of 1209 tariff lines of import of goods not allowed from India. Both countries have Preferential Trading arrangement under South Asia Free Trade Area (SAFTA) process. Benefits under the SAFTA process are partially blocked by Pakistan through ‘Negative List’.

(c) and (d) In the recent meeting between Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan on 27th May 2014, it was stated that the two countries could move immediately towards full trade normalisation on the basis of the September 2012 roadmap worked out between the Commerce Secretaries of both countries.

Evaluation of impact of FTAs

1523. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently evaluated the impact of Free

Trade Agreements (FTAs) entered into with neighbouring as well as various other countries;

(b) whether after undertaking Impact Evaluation of FTAs, Government has identified any domestic sector in the country which has been adversely affected;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government will take any corrective measures to safeguard the interest of the domestic industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (d) Impact evaluation of FTAs is a continuous process which starts even before FTA negotiations are entered into. As per preferential import data available, the extent of utilization of FTAs by the exporters of the trading partner countries is low. Before entering into negotiations with its trading partners, studies are undertaken internally, as well as through the Joint Study Group (JSG) to study the feasibility of the proposed FTAs, including their impact on the domestic stakeholders including the Apex Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Industry Associations as well as the Administrative Ministries and Departments. In order to protect the interest of the domestic industry and agriculture sector, these agreements provide for maintaining sensitive/negative lists of items on which limited or no tariff concessions are granted under the FTA. In addition, in case of a surge in imports and injury to the domestic industry, a country is allowed to take recourse to the measures such as anti-dumping and safeguards. Every FTA has a joint review mechanism which monitors the implementation of the FTA. India's trade and economic relations with all its FTA partners have increased substantially.

DIPP Schemes in Goa

1524. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the name of schemes of Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) being implemented in Goa;

(b) the essential features of the schemes and the financial assistance given to the State of Goa in the last three years;

(c) the targets achieved and the proposed for further financial assistance if any, pending with Government; and