

**India-EU to resume FTA talks**

1942. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and the European Union (EU) will resume talks on the proposed Free Trade Agreement after a gap of about 30 months, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the EU has banned the sale of around 700 pharma products, clinically tested by GVK Biosciences; and

(c) whether India and the 28-nation bloc failed to bridge substantial gaps on crucial issues, including data security status for IT sector and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) The Chief Negotiators in India-European Union Broad Based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) are to meet in the beginning of the next year.

(b) EU has suspended the market authorisation of around 700 pharma products clinically tested by GVK Biosciences, Hyderabad.

(c) India and European Union are negotiating a Bilateral Broad Based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) covering various tracks. So far fifteen rounds of negotiations have been held. As is consistent with previous and established practice in ongoing negotiations, disclosure before finalisation of the Agreement may adversely affect India's position in the negotiations.

**New agri export plan**

1943. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to come up with a new agri export plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this aims to boost overseas shipment of agricultural products from India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Encouraging exports of

agricultural products is a continuous process. The Government is taking steps to encourage exports of agro products through measures and incentives under Plan schemes of the Commodity Boards and Export Promotion Councils. Besides these measures, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has put in place various schemes namely Market Development Assistance (MDA), Market Assistance Initiative (MAI) and Merchandise Export Incentive Scheme (MEIS), Interest Equalisation Scheme etc. to provide assistance to encourage exports. The Government has already unveiled the new Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20 on 01st April, 2015 which aims at export promotion for all products including agricultural products. At present there is no proposal for a separate agri export plan.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

#### **Relaxation in patent protection norms in pharmacy**

1944. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering the relaxation of norms, allowing for patent protection in pharmacy, in light of the new dialogue with the United States of America, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what impact will this have for the production and supply of cheap and life- saving drugs, for many developing countries in Asia and Africa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

#### **Sectors under 'Make in India' programme**

1945. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the month-wise and sector-wise details of exports and imports separately, in all the sectors identified under the 'Make in India' programme in the last two financial years and in the current financial year, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): The sectors identified under the Make in India programme include:

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| 1. Automobile            | 3. Aviation      |
| 2. Automobile components | 4. Biotechnology |
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