Decline in manufacturing sector

2725. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether manufacturing sector has been experiencing consistent decline resulting in large scale unemployment over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof including reasons for decline along with review under taken by Government in this regard and the results of these reviews;

(c) whether India's ranking in the performance of manufacturing sector is also on the decline as per the report of the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government including measures suggested by the various industrial bodies to boost/improve manufacturing sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) Growth rate of the Gross Value Added (GVA) at Basic Price at constant (2011-12) prices in manufacturing sector was 5.3% in 2013-14 and 7.1% in 2014-15. During April-September, 2015-16, it has shown a growth of 8.2%. Thus, there is no decline in the growth of manufacturing sector.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per the UNIDO's Industrial Development Report 2016, the ranking of India has improved from 45 in 2010 to 43 in 2013 in Industrial Competitiveness.

(d) Government has taken a number of measures to boost growth of production in manufacturing sector. These *inter-alia,* include launch of Make in India programme, rationalization of tax structure, liberalization of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy, steps to create ease of doing business and implementation of projects to create state-of-art infrastructure.

Bilateral trade agreements

2726. SHRI RAJ BABBAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed bilateral trade agreements with various countries recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the salient features of these agreements;