

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1688
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2003
TRADE AGREEMENT WITH AFGHANISTAN
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any preferential trade agreement has been signed by India with Afghanistan recently;
- (b) if so, the details of agreement; and
- (c) the time period upto which the agreement would be in vogue?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A bilateral Preferential Trade Agreement between India and Afghanistan was signed in New Delhi on 6th March, 2003. As per the Agreement, India has extended tariff concession ranging from 50 to 100% to Afghanistan on import of 38 items of dry fruits, fresh fruit, seeds, medicinal herbs and precious stones. Afghanistan is granting duty free access to 8 items including tea, pharma products, sugar and cement.

(c) The Agreement shall remain in force until either Contracting Party terminates this Agreement by giving six months notice to the other of its intention to terminate the Agreement.