

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3961
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2003
TRADE PACT WITH BANGLADESH
KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY

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

(a) whether India and Bangladesh are entering into a free trade agreement to strengthen the economic cooperation between the countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): During the 6th Meeting of the India-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission (JEC) held in Dhaka on July 14-15, 2003, the two sides agreed that the Joint Working Group at the level of Joint Secretaries from the two Ministries of Commerce would meet in Dhaka by the middle of October, 2003 to begin negotiations on a bilateral Free Trade Agreement.