

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4884  
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000  
TRADE COOPERATIVE WITH U.S.  
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Information Technology, telecommunications, specially chemicals and entertainment industry are the major areas which got special focus during the discussions between the Indian businessmen and US counterparts during US President's visit to India;
- (b) if so, whether the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry had organised a round table meeting with the US businessmen in Mumbai on March, 24, 2000;
- (c) the manner in which private sector is likely to be benefited therefrom;
- (d) whether any agreement was reached between Indian representatives and US businessmen in Mumbai; and
- (e) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN)

(a) to (e) The Prime Minister of India and the President of the United States of America have signed a statement outlining their vision for indo-US relations for the 21st Century. The vision statement, inter-alia, recognises that the two nations are leaders in the information age and are in the forefront of new high technology economy. The two sides have established an architecture of a regular, wide-ranging dialogue, including in the areas of trade and commerce, finance and investment. The economic and commercial dialogues is also likely to enhance mutually beneficial cooperation in Information Technology. Further the two sides discussed all issues of mutual interest including Information Technology, telecommunications and other areas. Minister of Commerce and Industry of India and US Commerce Secretary William Daley signed a Joint statement on initiating Commercial Dialogue between the two countries. The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry had organised a business meeting at the Mumbai Stock Exchange on March 24, 2000. FICCI and US India Business Council also signed a MoU on enhancing cooperation in knowledge based industries.