

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6726
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2005
INDO-ITALY TRADE
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) whether India and Italy have decided to improve trade between the two countries;
- (b) if so, whether any meeting at the Indo-Italian business forum has been held;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the main agreements reached between the two countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGO VAN)

(a): In the 16th Session of the India-Italy Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation held in New Delhi on 7th January 2005, both sides have agreed to improve economic cooperation including trade flows between the two countries.

(b)&(c): The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in partnership with Confindustria (Confederation of Italian Industries), Italian Institute of Foreign Trade and Association of Banking Industry organised the India-Italy Business Forum in New Delhi on 15th February 2005 during the visit of the President of Italy and the accompanying business delegation. This meeting provided a platform for the business communities of the two countries to exchange views on potential sectors of cooperation to further expand trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

(d): A Memorandum of Understanding on fishery and aquaculture products has been signed between the two countries on 14th February 2005.