

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2000
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2005
INDO- AUSTRALIA ECONOMIC COOPERATION
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

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

- (a) whether the Government propose a comprehensive economic cooperation agreement with Australia as reported in Dainik Jagran dated October5, 2005;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof; and
- (c) the response of Australia in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) India and Australia have agreed to provide a Trade and Economic Framework (TEF) for facilitating bilateral trade and investment relations on a balanced and comprehensive basis through various avenues. The areas identified in the TEF for expansion of economic relations include infrastructure, energy, mining, services, textiles/clothing, food/beverages, ICT, tourism etc.