

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2517

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2006

EXPORT OF WHISKY

Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to review the trade agreements with Britain as appeared in Rashtriya Sahara dated January 17, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details and facts thereof;
- (c) whether the European Union has objected for the purchase of Indian whisky;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to maintain export status of whisky in International market?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

- (a) & (b) The Government of India has no such proposal of reviewing the Trade Agreement with Britain (UK).
- (c) & (d) Indian whisky is not allowed to be marked in the European Union as `whisky` since it is manufactured out of alcohol made from molasses and the EC tariff schedule has adopted the World Customs Organisation's definition of whisky as `grain based alcohol`.
- (e) The matter is appropriately taken up in bilateral interactions with the European Commission and member States.