

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1044
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2006
FREE TRADE AGREEMENT
Rawale Shri Mohan

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

- (a) whether the Government intends to enter into free trade agreement with China;
- (b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to protect Indian industries;
- (c) whether India's export to China as compared to the import from China is much less;
- (d) if so, whether free trade agreement between them will be more beneficial to China as compared to India;
- (e) whether Government's positive view would adversely affect the Indian industries especially electronics, grocery and textiles; and
- (f) the steps taken to safeguard the interest of Indian industries ?

Answer

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

(a),(b),(d) The two governments have appointed a Joint Task force to

(e)&(f) :study in detail the feasibility of, and the benefits that may derive from the possible China-India Regional Trading Arrangement and also give its recommendations regarding its content.Representative of FICCI and CII have been included in the Joint Task Force to reflect the interests of Indian industries.

(c) Yes, Sir.During the year 2005-06 India's export to China was US \$ 6.72 billion and India's import from China was of US \$ 10.73 billion (DGCIS Provisional figures).