

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:935
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2006
CIGARETTES AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS
Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir

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

- (a) the status of cigarettes and tobacco products under the Indo-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement;
- (b) whether India has placed these products under negative list; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

a)&b): In the India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement(ISLFTA) cigarettes and tobacco products are not in the Negative List of India

c): At the time when ISLFTA was finalised, there was no threat perception to the domestic industry on account of import of cigarettes and tobacco products and hence it was not considered necessary to place these items in the Negative List of India.