GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1866

ANSWERED ON-13.05.2015

Talks with China over Indias demand in three key sectors

1866. Shri A.U. Singh Deo

Shri Ravi Prakash Verma

a) whether Government expressed concerns that administrative agencies in China have not responded to India"s demand in three key sectors, viz. pharmaceutical, agriculture including bovine meat and IT services where the country has demonstrative strength;
b) if so, whether Government has held any talks with the Chinese Government;
c) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and
d) if not, the next course of action of Government in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a): India has consistently sought greater market access for India’s exports to China, especially in sectors such as pharmaceuticals, agriculture including bovine meat, IT services, etc. India has also sought simplification and greater transparency in China’s procedures relating to registration, inspection and approvals relating to imports from India.

(b) to (d): The issue of market access to Indian products in IT/ITES, pharmaceuticals and agricultural products including bovine meat has been discussed with China at various fora including at the highest levels of leadership of the two countries. The Joint Statement on Building Closer Developmental Partnership between India and China issued during the visit of Chinese President to India in September 2014 highlighted India’s demand that the two sides take positive steps towards rebalancing bilateral trade and addressing the existing structural imbalance in trade that has a bearing on its sustainability and that such measures will include cooperation on pharma including registration, speedier phytosanitary negotiations on agro-products for two-way trade, stronger links between Indian IT companies and Chinese enterprises, and increasing services trade in tourism, films, healthcare, IT and logistics. The two sides have also signed the Five-Year Development Program for Economic and Trade Cooperation that lays out a roadmap for comprehensively deepening and balancing bilateral economic engagement with an emphasis on enhancing India’s exports in these products to China. These issues were also flagged at the level of Commerce Ministers of two countries during the India-China 10th Joint Economic Group (JEG) meeting held in September 2014 in Beijing.

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