

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1006
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19th DECEMBER, 2018

TRADE WITH U.K.

1006. SHRI SANJAY RAUT

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has worked out its strategy on trade with U.K. after Britain got out of the European Union;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has ironed out free trade issues with the European Union; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

- (a) and (b): Britain can be engaged in trade after the process of separation from EU is completed, subject to invocation of Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty. The strategy for engagement with U.K. will be dependent on the final terms and conditions of UK's withdrawal arrangement with the European Union.
- (c) and (d): India-European Union Broad-based Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (India-EU BTIA) negotiation started in 2007 and after sixteen rounds of negotiations (the last being in 2013), EU withdrew from the negotiations due to some outstanding issues. Nine rounds of meetings of India-EU BTIA negotiations have been held since January, 2016 in order to proceed with the negotiations. India has expressed its willingness to resume negotiations in these meetings and is committed to an early and balanced outcome of the India-EU BTIA Negotiations. As is consistent with previous and established practice in ongoing negotiations, disclosure before finalisation of the Agreement may adversely affect India's position in the negotiations.
