

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2439

ANSWERED ON 21/03/2025

FTA NEGOTIATIONS WITH EUROPEAN UNION, UK AND ASEAN

2439. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of India's Foreign Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations with the European Union, UK, and ASEAN in 2024;
- (b) the key priorities Government is pursuing in the ongoing FTA negotiations with the UK, particularly in areas such as market access for Indian goods and services, mobility for professionals, social security agreements, and environmental or carbon taxation;
- (c) the estimated impact of these FTAs on India's trade deficit and manufacturing sector; and
- (d) the measures taken to safeguard the interests of domestic Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in ongoing trade negotiations?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) India and the European Union (EU) commenced Free Trade Agreement negotiations in June 2022. 10 rounds of negotiations have been held till March 2025, the last being from 10-14 March, 2025 at Brussels.

India and UK Free Trade Agreement Negotiations (FTA) were launched on 13th January 2022. 14 rounds of negotiations have been held so far. After a brief pause for few months, the negotiations has resumed on 24th February 2025.

The ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) was signed on 13th August 2009 and came into force on 1st January 2010 in respect of India, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand. By 1st August 2011, all ASEAN members became signatory to the FTA and the agreement was fully operationalized.

(b) Various policy areas including market access for Indian goods and services, mobility for professionals etc. are part of the ongoing negotiations.

(c) & (d) The ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) was signed on 13th August 2009 and came into force on 1st January 2010. In the financial year 2024, the total volume of trade is USD 120.87 Billion worth of goods.

In negotiations with EU and UK, both sides aim to conclude a fair, equitable mutually beneficial and commercially meaningful Free Trade Agreement (FTA). FTAs take into consideration the needs and concerns of all the stakeholders including the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).
