

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1486**  
ANSWERED ON 01/08/2025

**STRATEGIC INVESTMENT COMMITMENTS UNDER INDIA-  
EFTA TRADE AGREEMENT**

1486. SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA  
SMT SEEMA DWIVEDI  
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE  
DR. KAVITA PATIDAR  
SMT. DARSHANA SINGH  
SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA

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

- (a) the amount of investment committed by the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) towards technology transfer and manufacturing in India;
- (b) the estimated scale of investments proposed under the agreements in line with 'Make in India' and advanced manufacturing objectives; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has introduced any facilitation mechanism to streamline the flow of EFTA linked investments, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) & (b) The India-European Free Trade Association (EFTA) Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA), signed on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024, is a modern and forward-looking agreement. For the first time in history of Free Trade Agreements, binding commitment of \$100 billion investment or ₹ Eight Lakh Sixty-Five Thousand crores at current exchange rate and 1 million direct jobs over the next 15 years has been secured from Switzerland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland.

Under Chapter 7 of the TEPA on Investment Promotion and Cooperation, the EFTA States shall aim to increase foreign direct investment (FDI) from their investors into India by USD 50 billion within 10 years from the entry into force of the Agreement, and an additional USD 50 billion in the succeeding 5 years, amounting to a total of USD 100 billion over 15 years. Concurrently, the EFTA States shall aim to facilitate the generation of 1 million direct jobs in India resulting from these investment inflows. This investment commitment explicitly excludes foreign portfolio investment (FPI), focusing on long-term capital for productive capacity building and for job creation.

The TEPA is expected to give a significant impetus to the 'Make in India' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiatives. The investments are anticipated to flow into key sectors such as infrastructure and connectivity, manufacturing, machinery, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, food processing, transport and

logistics, banking and financial services, insurance, and renewable energy, thereby promoting technology collaboration, innovation and Research & Development and access to leading technologies. These will help improve skills of our aspirational youth and raise the quality of life for millions of people.

(c) The Ministry has established a robust facilitation mechanism to streamline the inflow of EFTA-linked investments.

A dedicated India-EFTA Desk has been launched in February 2025 to function as a single-window platform for EFTA businesses looking to invest, expand, or establish operations in India. This Desk provides support, including market insights, regulatory guidance, business matchmaking, and assistance in navigating India's policy landscape, thereby ensuring transparency and ease of doing business.

Furthermore, the TEPA itself establishes a Sub-Committee on Investment Promotion and Cooperation under Chapter 7. This institutional body, comprising government representatives of the Parties, is mandated to oversee, review, and monitor the implementation of the investment promotion chapter, including the progress towards achieving the shared objectives on investment and job creation.

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