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

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2824 TO BE ANSWERED ON 20<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2017

#### **DISCUSSION ON TRADE RELATED ISSUES**

#### 2824. SHRIMATI K. MARAGATHAM:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री ) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any discussion has been held with Indian Ambassadors in European countries on trade related issues;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the deliberations covered a range of trade issues including matters pertaining to institutional mechanism, market access issues and Free Trade Agreement; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the point of view put forward by these Ambassadors?

### **ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण) (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

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

- (a) & (b) Yes Madam. Discussions were held with Ambassadors of India to European countries through video conference on 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 led by the Commerce Secretary.
- (c)& (d) The deliberations covered a range of trade issues including matters pertaining to review of institutional mechanism, market access issues, free trade agreements especially India-European Union Broad-based Bilateral Trade & Investment Agreement (India-EU BTIA) and India European Free Trade Association Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (India-EFTA TEPA), Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) and forthcoming high level visits. The Ambassadors unanimously welcomed the initiative of holding such a meeting.

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