

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4594
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.03.2017**

AGREEMENT WITH RWANDA

†4594. PROF. RAVINDRA VISHWANATH GAIKWAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some new agreements have been signed between India and Rwanda as a result of showing commitment to the strong relations between the two countries;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the likely impact thereof on the economic trade relations with India; and**
- (c) the details in this regard including the details of the agreement signed between the two countries?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]**

(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) During the visit of Vice President Shri Hamid Ansari to Rwanda from February 19-21, 2017, the following agreements were signed between India and Rwanda:

- (i) Agreement for Bilateral Air Services – The Air Services Agreement between India and Rwanda has the potential to spur greater trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchange, in tune with the developments in the civil aviation sector. This enables environment for enhanced and seamless connectivity, while providing commercial opportunities to the carriers of both the sides ensuring greater safety and security.**
- (ii) Memorandum of Understanding for setting up of an Entrepreneurship Development Centre in Rwanda: Under the MOU, Government of India is assisting the Republic of Rwanda to set up an Entrepreneurship Development Centre (EDC) in Kigali, Rwanda, and provide overall technical assistance as a grant.**
- (iii) Agreement for exemption of visa for diplomatic and official passports: This Agreement will facilitate visa-free travel and stay of diplomatic and official passport holders of both the countries up to 90 days in any period of 365 days.**
