

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

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3117**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, 2018**

**TARIFF CONCESSIONS UNDER APTA**

3117. SHRI PONGULETI SRINIVASA REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has approved a move for exchange of tariff concessions under the Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA), towards expanding trade ties with five nations in the region including China; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी. आर. चौधरी)

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

(a)&(b) The Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA, formerly the Bangkok Agreement) is an Agreement in existence since 1975. The current membership consists of six countries, namely, Bangladesh, China, India, Lao PDR, Republic of Korea, and Sri Lanka. So far, four Rounds of tariff concessions have been exchanged among the member countries. The results of 4<sup>th</sup> Round of negotiations have been implemented with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2018. India has, on its part, exchanged tariff concessions on 3142 tariff lines with all member countries and special concessions on 48 tariff lines for LDCs, viz. Bangladesh and Lao PDR. APTA Member States are now engaged into fifth round of negotiation in the areas of Goods, Services, Trade Facilitation and Investment.

\*\*\*\*