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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3539 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST DECEMBER, 2015

REVIEW OF FTAs

3539. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

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

- a) whether the Government has asked the Chief Economic Advisor to look into the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) between India and other countries;
- b) if so, the details of such FTAs along with the suggestions made for review and renegotiation of FTAs, FTA-wise;
- c) whether the Indian Institutes of Management have conducted any study on FTAs in the year, 2013; and
- d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

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) to (b): The Ministry of Finance has constituted an independent working group under the Chairmanship of the Chief Economic Advisor to examine the impact of the Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) signed by India. The Terms of Reference of this Working Group is to undertake an analysis of bilateral trade and investment flows with the countries with which India has signed Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreements (CECAs) and Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreements (CEPA), at the aggregate and the sectoral level; and to analyse the impact of these agreements on certain specific sectors in greater details.

(c) to (d): An independent study titled "*Impact analysis of India's Free Trade Agreements*' was undertaken by Professor Rupa Chanda, a faculty from the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore in December, 2013. The final report of the study was submitted in March, 2015. The findings of the report have been examined by the Government.
