

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2346  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2016

**FTA BETWEEN INDIA AND AUSTRALIA**

**2346. SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:**

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

- (a) whether the negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and Australia are underway;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the talks on a Trade Agreement between the two countries have been delayed;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for zero duty on auto parts, textiles, fresh fruits, etc. in the service sector?

**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) : Yes Madam. A Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between India and Australia is under negotiation.
- (b) to (d): Nine Rounds of negotiations and a number of inter-sessional meetings have been held so far between the two sides. In the process of negotiations the two sides have exchanged two rounds of offers in goods market access and services market access. These have been examined by both sides. The conclusion of CECA negotiations will also depend upon the negotiation strategy of Australian side, on which Government of India has no control.
- (e): Details of negotiations cannot be informed at this stage.

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