GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2567
ANSWERED ON 04/08/2026

AGREEMENTS ON TRADE

2567. THIRU DAYANIDHI MARAN

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

(a) the key outcomes of the visit of Minister of Commerce & Industries to Spain, Belgium and Finland, including agreements on trade, investment and technology, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether any investment proposals or technology partnerships were secured for Tamil Nadu in sectors such as automobiles, semiconductors, renewable energy, textiles, electronics and food processing, if so, the details thereof and the achievements of the trip itemised by beneficiary State;
(c) whether representatives from Tamil Nadu's industries, MSMEs and export bodies were included in the official delegation and if so, the details thereof;
(d) the steps taken to ensure Tamil Nadu's export-oriented sectors, including textiles, leather, automobiles, engineering goods and IT services, benefit from the India-EU Free Trade Agreement; and
(e) whether the Government proposes a dedicated mechanism to attract European investments into Tamil Nadu's industrial clusters and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) Minister of Commerce & Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, visited Spain, Belgium and Finland from 13-17 July, 2026 with the objective of strengthening economic engagement with Europe, focusing on trade, investment, technology, innovation and sustainability. During the visit, discussions were held with the Governments and industry representatives of the three countries on enhancing cooperation in areas including trade, investment, technology, innovation, resilient supply chains, leveraging opportunities arising from the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement and the implementation of the India-EU FTA. The Minister also co-chaired the 3rd India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) Ministerial Meeting held in Brussels. During the visit to Finland, two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were signed, namely, an MoU between the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Business Finland for commercial cooperation, and an MoU between the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK) to promote deeper business engagement and leverage the India-EU FTA.

(b) During the visit, discussions were held with Governments and industry representatives of Spain, Belgium and Finland on opportunities for investment and technology collaboration in sectors including automobiles, semiconductors, renewable energy, textiles, electronics, manufacturing, food processing, artificial intelligence and digital technologies. The engagements were aimed at facilitating greater investment and technology partnerships across India including Tamil Nadu.

(c) Yes, the representatives from Tamil Nadu industries were part of the business delegations accompanying the Minister of Commerce & Industry during the visits to Spain, Belgium and Finland. The business delegations comprised representatives from diverse sectors of Indian industry from across the country. The representation from Tamil Nadu included sectors such as engineering and manufacturing, healthcare, footwear, construction, e-waste recycling, design and education.

(d) The India-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is expected to provide benefits across states including the state of Tamil Nadu in various key sectors such as textiles & apparel, leather & footwear, engineering goods and automobiles through preferential market access across 97% of EU tariff lines covering more than 99% of India's current export value. Preferential tariff access is expected to enhance India's export competitiveness, promote value addition and provide opportunities for integration into EU value chains, thereby strengthening domestic manufacturing and employment particularly in labor-intensive and MSME-driven sectors. In the services sector, India has secured commitments across key services subsectors, including IT/ITeS, professional services, education and other business services. Indian service providers are expected to benefit from a stable and predictable regime in the EU market and facilitative mobility commitments for professionals, thereby boosting India's services exports.

(e) The India-EU FTA provides predictable and preferential market access to European companies. This along with regulatory cooperation and policy certainty, is expected to enable the development of integrated and trusted supply chains between India and Europe, thereby encouraging long-term investments across manufacturing and services sectors.

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