

AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA

AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Czech Republic, hereinafter referred to as the Parties:

Inspired by the traditional links of friendship and the cordial relations, which exist between both states;

Desirous of developing and intensifying economic, industrial, technical and technological cooperation on the basis of reciprocity and mutual benefit;

Conscious of the necessity of existence of an adequate legal framework for Indian-Czech relations in accordance with laws and regulations in force in each state, respectively,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

Objectives

The Parties agree that the objectives of the Agreement, in accordance with laws and regulations in force in each state, are to:

- (a) Promote activities aimed at the development of bilateral economic cooperation;
- (b) Support and develop business contacts and related opportunities;
- (c) Facilitate growth of bilateral investment and the identification of economic and investment opportunities in their respective states;
- (d) Encourage cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

ARTICLE II

Economic Cooperation

The Parties share a commitment to the principles of free market economy. They consequently agree to encourage and facilitate greater cooperation between natural and legal persons of both states including business communities, associations, institutions, and government agencies, in accordance with laws and regulations in force in each state. To this end, they agree to:

- (a) Exchange information on economic development and bilateral trade, economic plans, forecasts and strategies;
- (b) Identify investment opportunities and facilitate investment flows through exchange of information on the laws and regulations governing foreign investments and any changes thereto and sectors of potential interest for joint cooperation;
- (c) Facilitate economic and investment missions, market analyses, exchange of information, business and institutional linkages, and other initiatives, which bring together potential business partners;

- (d) Exchange information about industrial fairs, exhibitions, entrepreneurial missions and other promotional activities;
- (e) Facilitate movement of public and private sector experts, technicians, investors and business representatives;
- (f) Explore and promote joint business development possibilities in third states arising from partnership between Indian and Czech firms;
- (g) Encourage establishment of Joint Ventures;
- (h) Encourage cooperation in Science and Technology including linking Indian and Czech educational, training and research institutions.

ARTICLE III

Institutions

1. Implementation of this Agreement shall require close coordination and consultation between the two Parties. Consequently, a Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation is hereby established by the Parties to accomplish the objectives of this Agreement. The Joint Commission shall meet at regular intervals. The Joint Commission meetings should be held alternately in India and in the Czech Republic, unless otherwise agreed upon in particular cases. The structure of the Joint Commission will be agreed by both Parties by exchange of papers.
2. For each Party, the following Coordinating Body shall coordinate and oversee the implementation of this Agreement:
 - a) In case of India, the Coordinating Body shall be the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce) represented by Additional Secretary, Government of India as co-chairman of the Joint Commission; and
 - b) In case of the Czech Republic, the Coordinating Body shall be the Ministry of Industry and Trade, represented by the Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic as co-chairman of the Joint Commission.

3. The Joint Commission can establish committees or working groups as may be necessary. As appropriate, the Commission may involve representatives of relevant business organizations and institutions on both sides to assist in the implementation of the Agreement.

4. Unless the Joint Commission otherwise decides, the Coordinating Bodies shall present to it at each of its regular meetings reports covering the activities of committees or working groups which may be established under this Agreement.

5. The duties of the Commission shall comprise, in particular, the following:
 - a) Discussions on the development of bilateral economic relations;
 - b) Identifying new possibilities for further development of economic cooperation;
 - c) Drawing up suggestions, for the improvement of terms of economic cooperation between enterprises of both countries; and
 - d) Making recommendation for the implementation of this Agreement.

ARTICLE IV

Final Provisions

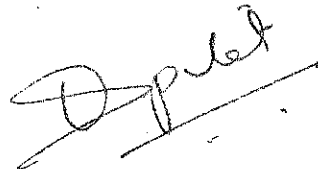
1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signature, and shall continue to be in force for an indefinite period unless terminated upon by a written notification by one of the Parties to the other, the termination being effective six months after delivery of the notice of termination.

2. Upon entry into force of this Agreement, the Trade Agreement between the Republic of India and the Czech Republic of 15th March, 1993 shall be terminated.

- 3. At the request of either Party, this Agreement may be amended or altered at any time by a written agreement of the Parties.
- 4. The revision or termination of this Agreement shall not affect arrangements and contracts already concluded under this Agreement.
- 5. (a) The provisions of this Agreement shall apply without prejudice to the rights and obligations of the Parties arising from international agreements to which they are party, and/or from their membership in international organizations.
 (b) This Agreement shall apply without prejudice to the rights and obligations of the Czech Republic arising from its membership in the European Union.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto for this purpose, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Prague, this 9 day of June 2010, in two originals each in the Hindi, Czech and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.


 FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
 THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA


 FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
 THE CZECH REPUBLIC