Embassy of India, Moscow, Russia is planning to organise a round table conference on a theme "building connectivity through the North South Corridor " tentatively on 28th November, 2016 with the collaboration of Embassy of Iran and Azarbaijan in Moscow and also with the support from the Russian Govt. and Russian investors.

The Embassy of India, Moscow has requested participation of APEDA, Pharmeixil along with trade bodies like FIEO, CII, FICCI. It is requested that exporters of APEDA particularly of potential products like Rice, Fresh and Processed Fruits and Vegetables, Gherkins, Bovine Meat, Poultry & Dairy Products may consider to participate in the event and to share their ideas/suggestions.

A copy of the circular along with the tentative schedule program is attached for your information.
Subject: Round table on International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC).

As you are aware, there has been a renewed emphasis, in the last few months, on our efforts to operationalise the International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC). Taking it further, Embassy of India, Moscow, is planning to organize a round table on a theme “building connectivity through the North South Corridor”. We propose to hold this round table on 28 November 2016. The event will be organized in collaboration with the Embassies of Iran and Azerbaijan in Moscow, with support from the Russian Govt. and some Russian think tanks. We have held preliminary discussions with some of our partners in this regard; and we are presently finalizing the logistical arrangements. I am enclosing a tentative programme (initial draft) for your kind perusal.

3. I would like to request your kind assistance in ensuring good participation from Indian stakeholders in this event. Mainly, we would like representatives from Federation of Freight Forwarders Association of India (FFFAI) to participate in the event and make a presentation based on their experience related to challenges faced and untapped potential w.r.t. the INSTC initiative.

4. Similarly, we would also seek your support to ensure participation of Federation of Indian Exporters Organization (FIEO), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), and Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) to participate in this event- either directly or through a video link to provide an industry interface. Since we are planning to invite representatives from Russia as well as Iran, Azerbaijan and some Central Asian countries to this event, it would be nice, that APEDA, Pharmexcll, FIEO, CII, & FICCI also send their representatives to attend the event. We are also inviting local Indian and Russian business community to the event.

5. I look forward to your support and advise to develop the agenda further and any ideas/suggestion, regarding potential invitees from India to make this event a success.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Sunil Kumar,
Joint Secretary (FT-CIS),
Department of Commerce,
Udyog Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110 011.
Roundtable on International North South Transport Corridor
(28 November 2016)
(Venue: Hotel Ritz Carlton)
Programme

1000 hrs to 1015 hrs
INAUGRAL SESSION: Converting Policy into Reality
- Welcome remarks and Statement by Ambassador of India to the Russian Federation (3 min)
- Statement by Representative of Ministry of Transport, Russian Federation (3 min)
- Statement by Ambassador of Iran to Russian Federation (3 min)
- Statement by Ambassador of Azerbaijan to Russian Federation (3 min)
- Statement by Representative of Federal Customs Service of Russia, Russian Federation (3 min)

1015 hrs to 1035 hrs
TECHNICAL SESSION I: INSTC—an appraisal
Presentation by the Ministry of External Affairs of India on INSTC and various initiatives in the region (5 min)
Presentation by the Russian Railways on recent initiatives on the INSTC project and the Russia-Azerbaijan-Iran rail link (5 min)
Presentation by the Government of Astrakhan on regional perspective of the INSTC route (5 min)
Presentation by a Russian think-tank on INSTC and Central Asia (Russkiy Mir)—opportunities and options (5 min—proposed—subject to convenience of Russkiy Mir)

1035 hrs to 1100 hrs
Question & Answers /Media Interaction

1100 hrs to 1130 hrs
Coffee Break

1130 hrs to 1230 hrs
TECHNICAL SESSION II: INSTC route: challenges and opportunities
- Presentation on "Customs Perspective on INSTC" (10 min)
- Presentation on "Opportunities for Freight Companies" (10 min)
- Presentation on "Gains and Challenges for Logistics" (10 min)
- Presentation on "Role of Technology" (10 min)
- Question & Answers (20 min)