India can look for FTA talks with Africa: Goyal



NIKESH SINGH New Delhi, 15 June

Commerce and Industry Minister Pivush Goval on Thursday said India could look for negotiating a free trade agreement (FTA) with Africa to further strengthen economic ties. He assured Africa of India's non-expansionist attitude while emphasising on enhancing partnership in the areas of ports, railway lines, and highways. "India is one country that doesn't at any point of time come and take over your railway lines or ports or take over your electricity transmission systems. India has never in its history had an expansionist attitude," he said at the CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on 'India-Africa Growth Partnership'.

Goyal said businesses of both regions should look at increasing bilateral trade beyond the target of \$200 billion by 2030. The bilateral trade at present is about \$100 billion.