

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4150  
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2000  
US OFFER TO LOOK INTO INDIA'S COMPLAINTS  
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government have raised points with the US Government on the issue of imbalances and inequities that have surfaced in the WTO;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the US administration has agreed to look into India's points to specify the imbalances; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and upto what extent?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) to (b) India and other developing countries have been raising the issue of up-front redressal of imbalances and inequities in the existing WTO Agreements in the WTO. India alongwith 11 other like minded countries, inter alia, had also submitted written proposals for the redressal of implementation issues. India has also been raising these issues in bilateral meetings with the US.

(c) to (d) After breakdown of the Seattle Ministerial Conference of the WTO held during 30.11.99 to 3.12.99, it was decided that developed countries would initiate Confidence Building Measures which would include the redressal of Implementation Issues in a time bound manner so as to encourage developing countries to come on board for the resumption of the suspended Ministerial Conference. In the meeting of the General Council of WTO held on 22nd June 2000, a work programme was adopted to address implementation concerns of the developing countries through the Special Sessions of the General Council so as to complete the said process not later than the Fourth Session of the Ministerial Conference of WTO, as already decided in the meeting of the General Council held on 3rd May, 2000.

Actual work on consideration of Implementation Issues has commenced through the Special Session of the General Council held on 22nd June, 2000, and will continue in the Special Sessions of General Council, scheduled for 18-19th October 2000 and 7-8th December 2000.