

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3144  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2000  
REVIEW OF INDIA S TRADE POLICY BY WTO  
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

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

- (a) whether the World Trade Organization had decided to review India`s Trade Policy during the month of April, 1999;
- (b) if so, the outcome of the decisions taken by the World Trade Organization; (
- (c) whether India`s policy was earlier reviewed by the World Trade Organization during 1993;
- (d) whether the World Trade Organization`s latest decision has satisfied the Government in regard to Indian Trade Policy; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a),(b), (d) and (e) The Trade Policy Review of a country by WTO has two broad objectives. Firstly, it enables other countries to understand the policies and circumstances of the country being reviewed. Secondly, it provides feedback to the reviewed country on its performance in the system.

In India`s trade policy review conducted in April 1998, discussions ranged on three main themes viz., the economic environment, import and export policy issues and sectoral issues. Several issues were raised by different members which were appropriately replied to. Overall, members appreciated the direction of reforms, welcomed the commitment expressed by India to further broad-based trade liberalization, domestic deregulation, and encouragement of private investment, and looked forward to further concrete, well-coordinated implementation in these areas. Members also welcomed India`s continued positive participation in the WTO and the importance attached by the Indian delegation and authorities to a stable, liberal, rule-based multilateral trading system.

(c) Yes, Sir.