

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2291
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003
US WARNING TO INDIA
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the US has issued a warning to India to reduce tariff and non-tariff barriers, allow more US goods to flow into the country etc. in order to avoid another backlash as reported in the Statesman dated November 21, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the manner in which the government proposes to deal with the US warning?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) & (b) No. In view of the large surplus of trade in India's favour in the India -U.S. bilateral trade, the U.S. government has on a number of occasions urged further liberalisation in India's external trade regime. The two sides have a wide-ranging institutional dialogue architecture to discuss trade policy issues in both countries and measures to enhance trade and investment ties. This includes the India – U.S. High Technology Cooperation Group that held its second meeting in India on 19-20 November 2003.

(c) The Government seeks mutually beneficial trade relations with the United States consistent with its national economic policies and priorities.