

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:138

ANSWERED ON:02.08.2005

REVISION OF AGREEMENT ON GATS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether the Government has revised the offer under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) to the WTO as reported in the `Hindu` dated May25,2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the revised offer is different from the previous one;
- (d) whether the member-countries are pressing India to open some sectors for them;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the reaction of the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

- (a) - (c) India will be submitting its Revised Offer on Services to the WTO shortly. In the revised Offer, existing commitments are proposed to be upgraded to the levels permitted in the autonomous policy regime and certain fresh sectors included.
- (d) - (f) The Services Negotiations move forward on a Request - Offer basis by all members of the WTO. India has also received requests for taking commitments from our trading partners in almost all areas of Services. India's Revised Offer is based on these requests and is conditional on the quality of the Offers of our trading partners. In case we are not satisfied with Offers made by our trading partners, we have the right to withdraw our Revised Offer.