

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:249  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011  
MARKET ACCESS ISSUES AT WTO  
Antony Shri Anto;Mani Shri Jose K.

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken up its concerns like access to markets of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Tariff and Trade Distorting Subsidies, Modalities for Agriculture etc. with the World Trade Organisation (WTO) recently;
- (b) if so, the outcome of discussions held with the WTO in each case; and
- (c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to resolve these issues?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 249 FOR ANSWER ON 12TH DECEMBER 2011 REGARDING "MARKET ACCESS ISSUES AT WTO"

(a): Rather than seeking access to LDC markets, least developed countries are to be assisted by grant of market access for their products. Accordingly, India has implemented a Duty Free Tariff Preference Scheme for the LDCs in 2008, as per the Hong Kong Ministerial mandate. India, together with several other WTO member countries, has been pressing for substantial and effective reductions in the large subsidies provided by some developed countries to their agriculture sector as these distort production and global trade.

(b) & (c): The Doha Round of WTO negotiations are in progress. India has consistently expressed its commitment to a strong rules-based multilateral trading system and has been working closely with key developed and developing countries, towards a balanced and development-oriented conclusion of the Doha Round.