

Sixth Trade Policy Review of India by the WTO, June 2015

The Sixth Trade Policy Review of India by the WTO was held in Geneva on 2nd and 4th June, 2015, as a part of the WTO's Trade Policy Review Mechanism that aims at achieving greater transparency in and understanding of the trade policies and practices of WTO members. India's trade policy review takes place once every 4 years, as determined in terms of its share in world trade. The Fifth TPR of India was held in September 2011.

The TPR exercise had started almost one year before the scheduled date of the review and included preparation of two important reports: one by the WTO Secretariat and another by the Government of India. These two Reports were circulated to all Members five weeks before the actual date of Review, and formed the basis for a discussion at the TPR.

India's Trade Policy Review attracted a high degree of interest among members to understand the direction of India's trade policy as well as to highlight their concerns in various sectors of the economy. During the last stretch of TPR, more than 750 advance written questions were posed to India and there were forty three (43) oral interventions at the formal meeting in the WTO. While members recognized and appreciated the reform measures announced by the Government, they also expressed the expectation that India's trade policy, investment and services regimes will continue to be liberalized further. India was particularly applauded by several members for its active role and leadership in the WTO and constructive engagement in various WTO processes, including Doha Round of negotiations.

Overall, the Sixth Trade Policy Review of India was both a successful and fruitful exercise.
