

[4 May, 2005]

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barriers was released by United States Trade Representative (USTR) on 30.3.2005 release of such reports is an annual exercise and gives an inventory of the important barriers, which are perceived as affecting US exports of goods and services, foreign direct investment and protection of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs). The current Report has covered USA's 61 major trading partners including India.

(b) The Report has raised concerns with regard to the taxes and tariffs being high, perceived non trade barriers affecting trade, investment and also the deficiencies in the protection of IPRs.

(c) The Report is in the knowledge of the government.

(d) The Report mentions about the import policies of India including import licenses requirement for vehicles, subsidy regime on di-ammonium phosphate (DAP) fertilizer, standards, labeling and certification procedures, sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures, government procurement, IPRs, barriers in trade in services, barriers to investments, anti-dumping laws etc.

(e) These concerns have been discussed from time to time with various representatives of USA and USA acknowledges in the Report that India has taken noteworthy steps to open its markets since 1991 and the government has made substantial progress in restructuring the tariff applied to non agricultural goods.

#### **Multi-Purpose National Identity Cards**

\*577. SHRI ABANI ROY:

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 25 given in the Rajya Sabha on 2nd March, 2005 and state:

(a) what are the names of the agencies given the project of MNICs with rates of each card and the amount earmarked;

(b) whether Government would consider giving subsidy to the State Government for preparing MNICs, and if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether these cards are likely to be in addition to voters Identity

Cards and if so, the reasons for this duplicacy and additional expenses; and

(d) by when they are likely to be put in place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) No agency has so far been selected and awarded the task of production and personalization of identity cards for the Pilot Project.

(b) The entire expenditure for implementing the Pilot Project is being borne by the Government of India.

(c) Yes, Sir. Since the Voters' Identity Card issued by the Election Commission of India is not a universal system of identification based on compulsory registration of Indian citizens, the Government propose to issue Multipurpose National Identity Cards, which apart from providing a credible individual identification system, would also have the potential to be used for multifarious purposes.

(d) The Government propose to implement the scheme in the entire country after the results of the Pilot Project are available, which is expected to be completed shortly.

#### **Security of Women and Children by Delhi Police**

\*578. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has directed Delhi Police to pay more attention to the security of women and children in the Capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Delhi Police as desired by him for the security of women and children; and

(c) the details of cases registered for causing harm to women and children in Delhi and how many of these cases are still unsolved together with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) The Government of India