

(d) There is no scheme for providing export subsidy to the farmers.

(e) Based on the request of the Tobacco Board, bankers have rescheduled tobacco crop loans/sanctioned additional crop loan for this crop season.

Expediting Doha round talks

174. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to expedite conclusion of Doha round talks;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government had held discussion with many countries in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) The Members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), including India, are actively engaged in the Doha Round of negotiations towards its early conclusion. India believes that a rules-based multilateral trade regime best serves the interests of global trade and the requirements of developing countries. Following a stalemate in the negotiations after a mini-Ministerial meeting in the WTO in July 2008, India sent out a strong signal of support by hosting an informal Ministerial meeting in New Delhi, in September 2009, to re-energise the Round. Negotiations resumed in the WTO soon afterwards.

In the WTO, India has been closely involved in the negotiations and regularly holds bilateral and plurilateral discussions with other countries on various aspects of the negotiations, towards a balanced and development-oriented conclusion of the Round. Further, India has actively participated in various international meetings at which the Doha Round was discussed, including meetings of Ministers held on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland in January 2011. India also supported the Declaration of G-20 leaders at their Seoul Summit in November 2010, which, *inter alia*, called for a successful, ambitious, comprehensive and balanced conclusion of the Round in 2011.