

- (vi) Online filing and payment of returns at the Employee's Provident Fund Organization, where the majority of returns and payments are now filed and paid fully online. This reform has not been considered even though it was implemented by EPFO on 5th June, 2015.
- (vii) Streamlining of name reservation process at Ministry of Corporate Affairs, reducing the time taken to an average of 1.86 days.
- (viii) Registration under VAT and Profession Tax has been merged into a single process from 1st January, 2015 by Government of Maharashtra.
- (ix) Registration for VAT in Delhi has been made online and is allotted real time and business can start operations immediately on receipt of TIN number.
- (x) Delhi Pollution Control Committee has removed the requirement of obtaining consent to establish for a non-hazardous warehouse.

(c) and (d) The Report has highlighted poor implementation of reforms by the Departments/agencies concerned of Government of India and Government of NCT of Delhi and Maharashtra. In spite of the regular guidance and monitoring, it has been felt that the reforms have not been implemented in entirety and the reforms which were implemented were actually not felt by users. Considering the importance of making the country an easy place to do business and improve its ranking, many Inter-Ministerial meetings have been held this year. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) has been coordinating with all the Departments and Agencies along with Government of NCT and Government of Maharashtra to implement the reforms. DIPP had also organized workshops with the Departments concerned and World Bank experts for better understanding and implementation of reforms. DIPP with the assistance of World Bank team has outlined the reforms which need to be implemented to improve our rank substantially in next year's Report and have shared with respective Departments and Government of NCT and Government of Maharashtra on 12.10.2016.

Impact of WTO

22. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had identified any sector (s) in the field of trade and commerce, which affects the interests of country due to its membership of World Trade Organization (WTO);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any initiative to protect the interest of country, producers/manufacturers and consumers; and

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) and (b) The agreements of the World Trade Organization (WTO) cover goods, services and intellectual property. These agreements are a result of multilateral negotiations and provide a transparent and predictable trade regime for WTO members. The WTO Agreements also include provisions for Special and Differential Treatment of developing countries, which are vital for their greater integration in the international trading system.

(c) and (d) In case any of the sectors is adversely affected by trade, the WTO rules provide for remedial measures. Amongst other measures, the Government has taken remedial actions on imported products in case of unfair trade activities by the exporting country and has also been successfully defending India's interests in case of inconsistent trade remedial actions by other countries. Similarly, wherever required, the inconsistencies by partner countries have been taken to the WTO dispute settlement mechanism for early resolution.

Aligning FDI policy with national industrial classification code

23. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to align the FDI policy with the National Industrial Classification Code in the context of ease of doing business;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, along with the present status of the proposal;

(c) to what extent this move will enhance the ease of doing business and in attracting FDI in various sectors; and

(d) by when the said initiative would come into effect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): (a) to (d) The Government has issued Press Note 1 of 2015 dated 05.01.2015 and mapped various sectors mentioned in the FDI policy document with National Industrial Classification Code (NIC Code) 2008. Details thereof are available at website of the Department (www.dipp.nic.in). This measure provides objectivity in the interpretation of FDI policy provisions on different sectors and enhances ease of doing business to foreign investors.