

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2717
ANSWERED ON 05/08/2025

TARIFFS AT THE WTO

2717. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the United States has rejected India's challenge at the World Trade Organization (WTO) to the US steel and aluminium tariffs on legal and procedural grounds, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the procedural errors allegedly committed by India in its WTO challenge as cited by the United States; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to address these concerns and to protect India's steel and aluminium exports from the impact of US tariffs?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री जितिन प्रसाद)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c) The United States did not accept India's request for consultations under the WTO Agreement on Safeguards (AoS) concerning US tariffs on steel, aluminium, and related derivative products. The US has maintained that these measures were introduced under Section 232 of their domestic law on grounds of national security. They have further stated that the measures fall within the scope of Article XXI of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 1994, which allows exceptions for national security, and have therefore taken the position that these actions are not safeguard measures under the WTO Agreement on Safeguards.

India, however, considers these measures to be safeguard actions that should have been notified and subjected to consultations under the AoS. India has accordingly reserved its right to suspend substantially equivalent concessions (*right to impose equal trade measures in response*) due to the US's non-compliance with its obligations under the AoS.
