

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2581
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14TH MARCH, 2016

FOOD SECURITY ISSUE AT WTO

2581. SHRI V. PANNEERSELVAM:

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

- (a) whether the United Nations Special Rapporteur has called upon the WTO trade Minister to immediately address the issue of public stockholding ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether this view is in support of the Government stand at the WTO and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to press ahead with its Food Security agenda in all its future negotiations at WTO and other trade bodies; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)(स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) to (c) The United Nations Special Rapporteur in December 2015 called upon developed countries to re-consider their position on the G-33 proposal and stated that, “non-resolution of the permanent solution to the public stockholding program would be in bad faith, given the commitment that all countries made to resolve this in Bali and the meetings thereafter.” He had stated that such programs are entirely justified and desperately needed if

governments are to meet their obligations to ensure food security for everyone. The statement is in line with India's position on the issue.

(d) & (e) The Government is committed to press the issue in the World Trade Organization in order to take forward the mandate given in the Bali and Nairobi Ministerial conferences. India has sought to implement the decisions on the issue through active and constructive engagement by members.
