

FAQ's

Que-1 What do one mean by term 'Singapore issues'?

Ans. The 'Singapore issues' term refers to areas of

- trade and investment
- trade and competition policy
- trade facilitation
- transparency in government procurement

Que-2 What are the Main issues of Doha Development Round?

Ans. The Main issues of Doha Development Round was to promote globalization and help the world's poor (by slashing barriers and subsidies in farming). The agenda comprised both trade liberalization and new rule-making, supported by commitments to strengthen substantial assistance to developing countries. There was also agreement on prevention of misuse of Traditional Knowledge of developing world by Corporations in west.

Que-3 Name the three main pillars of Agreement on Agriculture(AOA)?

Ans. The Agreement on Agriculture has three pillars—

- 1) Domestic support
- 2) Market access
- 3) Export subsidies

Que-4 Write short notes on:

- Business Processing Outsourcing Services
- Special Safeguard Mechanism

Ans. BPO (Business Processing Outsourcing Services) from developed countries are coming to India which have enabled us to earn not only foreign exchange but also to generate a large number of employment opportunities for educated Indian youth. But BPO to India and other developing countries are in accordance with the comparative advantage

principle and raises profits of American companies which on being used for further investment will generate more employment opportunities in the USA.

A Special Safeguard Mechanism (SSM) would allow developing countries to impose additional safeguard duties in the event of an abnormal surge in imports or the entry of unusually cheap imports. In turn, the G33 bloc of developing countries, a major SSM proponent, has argued that breaches of bound tariffs should not be ruled out if the SSM is to be an effective remedy

Que-5 List the various Ministerial Meets of WTO held till 2015?

Ans.

1. Singapore, 9-13 December 1996
2. Geneva, 18-20 May 1998
3. Seattle, November 30 – December 3, 1999
4. Doha, 9-13 November 2001
5. Cancun, Mexico 10-14 September 2003
6. Hong Kong, 13-18 December 2005
7. Geneva, 30 November - 2 December 2009
8. Geneva, 15-17 December 2011
9. Bali, 3-6 December 2013
10. Nairobi, 15-19 December 2015

Que-6 Where was Second Ministerial Conference held and what was agenda?

Ans. The second conference was held in Geneva in Switzerland where the developed nations made a commitment to reduce subsidies and trade distorting support to agriculture. Provision was made for special safeguard mechanism for the developing world and the concept of food security was accepted for the developing nations.

Que-7 When and where was the Third Ministerial Conference held and why did it turned out to be a failure?

Ans. The third conference was held in Seattle, United States on November 30 – December 3, 1999. It ended in failure, because of many controversies between developed and developing nations. The conference failed to kick off a new round of trade talks.

Que-8 Give details of the eighth WTO Ministerial Conference

Ans. The Eighth Ministerial Conference was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 15 to 17 December 2011. In parallel to the Plenary Session, where Ministers made prepared statements, three Working Sessions took place with the following themes:

- 1) Importance of the Multilateral Trading System and the WTO
- 2) Trade and Development
- 3) Doha Development Agenda

The Conference approved the consents of Russia, Samoa and Montenegro. In the final session, Ministers adopted a number of decisions and the Chair made a concluding statement.

Que-9 What are the two main issues of Indo – US's WTO problem?

Ans. Since end of cold war both countries have witnessed a spectacular improvement in bilateral relations in almost all spheres. However, at WTO platform two countries have disagreements on issues in at least two spheres – Agriculture and Intellectual Property.

Que-10 Write a short on WTO and INDIA relations.

Ans. India has been a WTO member since 1 January 1995 and a member of GATT since 8 July 1948. India is one of the prominent members of WTO and is largely seen as leader of developing and under developed world. At WTO, decisions are taken by consensus. India stands to gain from different issues being negotiated in the forum provided it engages with different interest groups constructively, while safeguarding its developmental concerns.

Accordingly, India remains committed to various developmental issues such as Doha Development Agenda, Special Safeguard Mechanism, Permanent solution of issue of public stock holding etc.