

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1030  
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2006  
DOHA WTO TALKS  
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether at the recent IMF meet in Singapore, it was decided to resume Doha(WTO) talks ;
- (b) if so, whether the point of break down was well appreciated by the IMF and in what terms and the specific direction set by the IMF for contained talks; and
- (c) the process since made towards resumption of such talks?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) and (b): At the meeting of the Development Committee of the IMF held in Singapore on 19 September 2006, the Committee felt that the de-facto suspension of the Doha Round negotiations of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) represented a setback in the common efforts to make more rapid progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The Committee reemphasized the importance of the multilateral trading system and called upon all WTO Members to avoid backsliding and to provide trade ministers with the necessary flexibility to resume the negotiations by the end of 2006.

(c): At the informal meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) of the WTO held on 16 November 2006, a consensus has emerged on resumption of the negotiation process in the Negotiating Groups of the TNC, with the Chairpersons of the respective Groups having the responsibility to determine the rhythm of their work in consultation with the WTO Member delegations.