

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1400
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2014
LIST OF PRIORITY FOREIGN COUNTRY
Galla Shri Jayadev

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

- (a) whether United States (US) has decided to classify India out of the list of priority foreign country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether India or US has raised this issue in any meeting of the Indo-US Trade Policy Forum;
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (e) whether there were any discussions with US in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

- (a) & (b): In its recent '2014 Special 301 Report' released by the US Government on 30.4.2014, India has been classified as the 'Priority Watch List Country' and it has been decided by the US to conduct an 'Out-of-Cycle' review.
- (c) & (d) : No, Madam. The meeting of India-US Trade Policy Forum has not been held during the last three years.
- (e) & (f) : As a part of the process of determination under Special 301, conducted pursuant to Section 182 of the US Trade Act of 1974, hearings are undertaken where Indian and US businesses participate. No official discussion between the two Governments have been held.