

**Informal gathering of Ministers responsible for World Trade Organization**  
**New Delhi, India**  
**March 19-20, 2018**

An informal gathering of Ministers responsible for WTO is being held in New Delhi on 19-20 March 2018. Ministers from developing as well as developed countries will participate in the meeting.

India is one of the founding Members of the World Trade Organization. We have been working constructively with Members of the WTO to ensure that multilateralism is strengthened through collaborative efforts. In the recent past, the Bali and Nairobi Ministerial conferences of the WTO have reinforced the view that the WTO has the capacity to deliver. The gathering of Ministers in New Delhi would further strengthen the commitment of members to engage on trade issues of importance to the entire world.

The gathering assumes importance in view of the difficult times that global economic growth and international trade are passing through. There cannot be an alternative to an open, inclusive and mutually beneficial trading system, which results in economic growth and leads to prosperity for all. The meeting is an initiative by India to facilitate an exchange of views on the issues and challenges facing the multilateral trading system including institutional issues.

The meeting is structured in an informal interactive format to provide an opportunity for Ministers to discuss various issues under discussion in the WTO and the way forward.

India is looking forward to welcoming Ministers and delegates to the informal gathering!

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