

“Specialized Course on Select WTO Issues : Agriculture, Services, TRIPs and RTAs”

15 February – 24 February, 2016

1. The Centre for WTO Studies (CWS) organized a “Specialized Course on Select WTO Issues : Agriculture, Services, TRIPs and RTAs” from 15th February to 24th February 2016 in collaboration with the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme of Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The training programme was held for a period of 10 days at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi and was attended by 25 government officials from 16 countries, viz., Afghanistan, Azerbaijan , Bangladesh, Belarus, Chile, Cuba, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan , Laos, Mauritius, Mongolia, Namibia, Senegal, Sri Lanka , St. Lucia and Thailand.

2. The programme was inaugurated on 15th February, 2016 by Dr. Surajit Mitra, Director IIFT. The inaugural programme was also attended by Mr. Abhijit Das, Head and Professor, CWS and Mr. Mukesh Bhatnagar, Professor, CWS.

3. The ITEC course covered topics relevant to WTO developing country members such as Agriculture, Services, TRIPs and RTAs. It also dwelt upon the decisions taken in the WTO Ministerial meeting held in Nairobi in December 2015. The training was imparted through lectures, presentations and experience sharing from developing country perspective. The speakers were from the Centre for WTO Studies, Department of Commerce, academia, WHO, Civil society as well as senior diplomat and legal experts.

4. In the course of their stay, a number of cultural activities were organized for the participants: Delhi sightseeing including Qutub Minar , Delhi Haat & India Gate; visit to the Taj Mahal and Agra Fort.

5. The programme concluded on 24 February 2016 with an evaluation of the programme by the participants. Shri Dinkar Asthana, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs handed over certificates of participation. Prof. Abhijit Das, Head, CWS and Prof. Mukesh Bhatnagar, CWS were also present during the evaluation and closing ceremony