



Session 5 - India@100 - Target 10% of global trade

Thursday, September 22, 2022

1450 - 1530 Hrs

Panel



Dr Harsha Vardhana Singh Chairman, IKDHVAJ Advisers LLP and Former DDG, WTO

Dr Harsha Vardhana Singh, Chairman, Ikdhvaj Advisers LLP, a boutique consulting firm on trade policy, industrial policy and regulatory policy. Dr. Harsha Vardhana Singh has extensive international and national experience on trade and investment matters. In two separate stints he worked at the GATT/WTO for a total of 20 years (eight years as Deputy Director General, WTO). He was first the Economic Adviser and then Secretary Telecom Regulatory Authority of India in its initial 8 years. He has been Executive Director of Brookings India, Senior Fellow at Think Tanks in Switzerland and Canada, taught at Universities in the US and China, been Chair/Secretary of GATT/WTO Dispute Settlement Panels, and member/Chair of High-Level Expert Groups within India and abroad to address inter alia policy concerns relating to international trade policy, industrial policy, competition and regulatory policy.

Dr. Singh's current expert engagements include: Senior Fellow, Council on Emerging Market Enterprises, The Fletcher School, Tufts University, USA; Member of the International Trade Policy Council of the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII); Non-Resident Senior Fellow, South Asia Center, Atlantic Council, Washington, DC; Senior Research Affiliate, Berkeley APEC Study Center, US; Chairperson, Private Sustainability Standard (PSS) Platform, an initiative

launched by the Government of India; and, Member of the Advisory Board of UNCTAD's "Transnational Corporations Journal".

His other high level expert engagements in the past ten years include: Member, High Level Advisory Group on International Trade, established by Government of India; Member, Competition Law Review Committee to revise the Competition Act, established by Government of India - included responsibility as Chairperson, Working Group on New Age Markets and Big Data; Chairman, Governing Body of the Agricultural Economics Research Center, University of Delhi; Senior Adviser to the Global Commission on Internet Governance on the topic, "Governance of International Trade and the Internet: Existing and Evolving Regulatory Systems"; Member, High Level Board of Experts on the Future of Trade Governance, set up by Bertelsmann Stiftung; Member, Expert Enquiry Committee Set Up by UK All Party Parliamentary Group on Trade Out of Poverty on "Can the Commonwealth help countries trade out of poverty?"; Member, Global Agenda Council (GAC) on Trade and Foreign Direct Investment, established by the World Economic Forum (2014-2016) - also worked closely with GAC on Competitiveness; Senior Advisor, Asia Society Policy Institute Task Force on "India and APEC: Charting a Path to Membership".

Dr. Singh has an M. Phil and D. Phil in Economics from Oxford University, U.K., after an MA and BA (Hons) in Economics from Delhi University, India.