

United States – Rules of Origin for Textiles and Apparel Products
(WT/DS243)

January 24, 2003

Questions from the United States to India

1. Could India clarify what “comparative advantage,” other than the lack of a quota, would drive Indian exports of greige fabrics to Sri Lanka, where they are “converted” into bed linen? (India answer to panel question 17(c)). Can India clarify exactly what activities are being performed in Sri Lanka to “convert” the fabric into bed linens?
2. With reference to India’s statement in paragraph 52 of its second submission that the “very adoption” of changes has an immediate impact on producers, could India please explain how this standard is different from a *per se* rule that changes are inconsistent with Article 2(c)?
3. Can India clarify if in India’s second submission, paragraph 43, it is saying that it is an “unduly strict requirement” to conform to Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) classifications for cotton, wool or silk?
4. With respect to the situation described in India’s answer to Panel Question 5, does India have any documentary evidence, such as contracts, invoices, bills of lading, etc. indicating that a) India exported greige fabric to Portugal, or b) that the fabric was subjected to “DP2” in Portugal?
5. Can India provide a general estimate of the percentage of world trade in fabrics that are actually subject to “DP2?” An estimate of world trade in bedsheets that are actually subject to “DP2?”
6. Could India give examples of wool products that are actually subject to DP2? Could they also estimate the amount of trade in those items?
7. Besides silk scarves and cotton/man-made fiber bed linens, can India give examples of other flat goods subject to DP2?