

Why has India taken a firm stand against the plurilateral agreement on investment facilitation at WTO. Analyse.

The agreement on investment facilitation for development is going to be negotiated shortly. India's stand is sour and its against it.

Features of the agreement

The agreement has been formulated due to the shift to the FDI's. India received a record \$58 billion in FDI in FY 2020-21

The agreement is also says that MFN regime would continue ~~under~~

The special and differential treatment would be confined only to capacity building measures.

There is also a call to sustainable investment.

India's opposition

Unilateral agreements are secondary to
feature of multilateral agreements. India has a
history of successful agreements such as
JETCO, mercurus PTA, CECPA with mauritius
CEPA with Japan, Singapore and Australia, etc

If investment facilitation hits WTO
it would restrict freedom to form domestic norms

Already TRIMS and GATS includes investment
in their portfolio. the newer one creates ambiguity

Also, the obligations are on the host
countries for example provision S&DT for

capacity building. Moreover investments are
bilateral issues and not to be made
multilateral

As India suggests WTO must focus on
permanent solution for food security and
environment protection to help attain SDGs
via trade.