

INTERNATIONAL

■ **WTO Meet 2022 Concludes with Approval of Crucial Trade Pacts**

The World Trade Organization (WTO) approved a series of trade agreements on 17th June after more than five days of tough negotiations. The agreements broadly relate to tackling food insecurity, curbing harmful fishing subsidies and



temporarily waiving COVID vaccine patents. Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal, who represented India at the WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference in Geneva, termed the meet as successful saying that India emerged as a credible and strong voice for the developing and least developed countries by proving unequivocally its ability at constructing consensus for the larger good as a global leader. During the negotiations, Shri Piyush Goyal had raised concerns about the "skewed" WTO reforms proposal, imperative need to retain the Special and Differential Treatment (S&DT) provisions for the developing world, global inequities in COVID vaccination and public stockholding of food grains.