PREFACE

International trading system has been going smoothly since the advent of GATT/WTO and its various institutions such as, Ministerial Conference WTO General Council, Dispute Settlement Body, Judicial bodies like Panel, Appellate Body, quasi-judicial body like arbitration and Good offices of the W.T.O. Directorate Expert Assistance etc. A new world trading order has been ushered in just after GATT incorporated many agreements and understanding giving birth to new rules in global trade. International trade law has developed from a technical backwater of international law to one of its most vibrant fields with the introduction of WTO agreement on 1st January 1995. Over the past decades, interest in this field of international law has increased tremendously. Students, academics, legal practitioners, business giants, non-government organizations and officials of national governments and international organizations have realized its importance. Many of the universities in India and abroad give much attention to trade law in law colleges and law universities. Some international law institutes offer WTO law as a specialized course of study for their degree course. The WTO law would be beneficial to those who are practicing trade laws.

Nevertheless, there are certain areas of grave concern in the dispute settlement mechanism, which, if properly attended to, could avert criticism. There must be a co-ordinated and legalistic effort among the organs viz the DSB, Appellate body and Panel of the dispute settlement system to bring about greater efficiency in the disposal of cases in international trade disputes. The study
attempts to assess the role of Dispute Settlement Body in the world trade under the WTO set-up.

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