

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3364
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2004
LICENCE FOR ENGINEERS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the provisions of GATT Agreement it would be mandatory for the professionals engaged in services at the international level to take licence from any authorised certification institute with effect from April, 2005;
- (b) if so, whether there are any institutions in the country to provide such licences to engineers; and
- (c) the immediate steps taken by the Government to set up authorised certification institute to issue licences to engineers?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (c) As per the preamble of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS), members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) have the right to regulate the supply of services within their territories in order to meet their national policy objectives. However, Article VI: 4 of the GATS provides that 'with a view to ensuring that measures relating to such requirement do not constitute unnecessary barriers to trade in services, the Council for Trade in Services (CTS) shall develop any necessary disciplines'. As regards registration of engineers, at present, there is no statutory body in the country created for this purpose. Consultations have taken place for setting up a professional body for undertaking the work relating to the registration of engineers.