

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:39  
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2009  
OPENING OF LEGAL SECTOR FOR FOREIGN COMPANIES  
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas; Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

**Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Government is considering a proposal to open up India's legal sector to foreign law companies;
- (b) if so, whether the matter has been consulted with the Bar Council of India; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPFA MOILY)

(a) to (c) No, Sir. However, the issue of allowing foreign law firms to establish their offices to give legal advice and assistance on foreign law is being discussed with all the stake holders including the Bar Council of India. A litigation is also pending before the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay in Writ Petition No. 1526/1995- Lawyers Collective Vs Bar Council of India & Ors on the entry of foreign law firms. The matter is under hearing. The Government will take a decision after considering the Views of all stake holders and the outcome of the litigation in the best interest of the legal profession.