

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:968  
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013  
WTO FRAMEWORK ON PROFESSIONALS  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether as per World Trade Organisation framework, professionals in any field of any country have access in other country only after bilateral agreements between the two countries have been signed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these norms are being violated by US and India to give access to professionals in their countries without signing bilateral agreement to that effect;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government as well as US not to breach the WTO norms?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b) : No, Madam. Under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), Member Countries can undertake commitments in various services sub sectors including professionals under a country's schedule of specific commitments.

(c) to (e) : No such instances of WTO violation have come to the notice of the Department of Commerce.