

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2793
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
WASHINGTON ACCORD
Yellaiah Shri Nandi

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has become permanent member of Washington Accord recently;
- (b) if so, the details of the Accord which would enrich global mobility to Indian engineering graduates; and
- (c) the details of the various benefits which Indian engineering graduates would acquire from the most advanced engineering institutes of the world through this Accord?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani)

(a): Yes Madam.

(b) to (c): The Washington Accord is an international agreement among bodies responsible for accrediting engineering degree programs of 17 countries namely, Australia, Canada, Chinese Taipei, HongKong, China, India, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States of America.

It recognizes the substantial equivalency of programs accredited by those bodies and recommends that graduates of programs accredited by any of the signatory bodies be recognized by the other bodies as having met the academic requirements for entry to the practice of engineering. The degrees of Tier-I Institutions (autonomous institutions) will be treated as substantially equivalent with the degrees of signatory countries. The accord also recognizes maintenance of quality standards, gives the opportunity for collaborations with other accredited programs of the universities globally. Graduate attributes identified by National Board of Accreditation (NBA) which have been accepted by the Washington Accord provide an excellent reference against which the programs can be compared and a road map for every institution to improve its quality thereby benefiting Indian Engineering Graduates to acquire quality education nationally and globally.