

Title: Need to debate obligations of World Trade Organisation -- Laid.

DR. V. SAROJA (RASIPURAM) : The expanding scope and deeper national commitment on trade at the multinational, regional and bilateral levels make it essential that we have a full debate on the advantage and disadvantages of the obligations of the W.T.O. At the multilateral level the WTO agreement, which was signed in 1995 covers trade in goods including Agriculture, Textile, apparel services, intellectual property rights, environment, health and anti-dumping. The most favoured countries in principle requires equal treatment to be given to all the trading partners and without any discrimination. There should be a full debate on the WTO in Parliament. It is the need of the Hour.

I request the Government through this House that a full debate on the subject may be held in the present monsoon session itself to discuss the WTO issue and to arrive at a national consensus on the issue.