

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:49
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2000
ENTRY OF FOREIGN LEGAL CONSULTANTS INTO INDIA
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;SURESH KURUP

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have decided to allow the entry of foreign law firms in India by making amendments in the Advocates Act, 1961 and thereby allowing the foreign legal consultants/advocates to practice in India;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether some sections of advocates and lawyers in different parts of the country went on strike over the issue in the recent past and have threatened to go on further strike in the near future as well against this move of the Government;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the demands made by them;
- (e) whether the Bar Council of India has also submitted any demands to the Government in this regard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and (g) the reaction of the Government to the demands made by advocates, lawyers and the Bar Council of India?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (Shri Ram Jethmalani)

- (a) No Sir,
- (b) Does not arise,
- (c) to (d) Lawyers had gone on strike from court work on 24th February, 2000 raising their protest on the question of entry of foreign nationals and law firms to the legal profession in India as suggested in the Working Paper prepared by the Law Commission on Advocates Act, 1961 as also on the amendments recently made in the CPC by the Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1999.
- (e) The Bar Council of India has not yet submitted their views on the working Paper prepared by the Law Commission on the Advocates Act
- (f) & (g) Does not arise.