



DISCUSSION

ON

**REGULATORY BARRIERS AND
TRADE IN SERVICES
- A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE**



ORGANISED BY

THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN TRADE, NEW DELHI

AND

CENTRE FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT LAW

***** CONCEPT NOTE *****

The past two decades have witnessed a revolution in the pattern of trade. There has been an unprecedented growth of trade in services, with services now contributing about sixty percent of the exports globally. The World Trade Organisation (WTO) has also emphasised that trade in services is becoming the most dynamic segment of foreign trade, growing much faster than merchandise trade, contributing to more than two-third of the global GDP and employment.

Recognising the importance of the sector in shaping the global economy, it is critical for services-exporting countries to assess the nature and extent of the existing barriers to trade in services. In particular, it is important to understand the level and type of service trade restrictiveness within a sector – relative to other service sectors and across countries. Such enquiries assist in understanding how these restrictions not only raise the cost of doing business in a country, but also adversely affect the downstream sectors, such as the manufacturing sector.

Against this backdrop, the **Ministry of Commerce and Industry, GOI** has commissioned a study into the restrictiveness in services trade in India and other countries. The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi and the Centre for Trade and Investment Law are pleased to invite you to participate in a discussion on “**Regulatory Barriers and Trade in Services: A Global Perspective**”. The objective is to discuss the nature and importance of various barriers to trade in services such as restrictions on foreign entry, movement of people, lack of regulatory transparency, barriers to competition and other discriminatory and non-discriminatory measures. This discussion will focus on restrictiveness in trade of **Computer, Telecommunication, and Engineering services**.

Your experience and insights on the restrictions and challenges faced by the service traders will be of immense value to this project.

The details of the event are as follows:

Friday, November 8th, 2019

9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Old Conference Hall, Second Floor,

Administrative Block-I,

Indian Institute of Foreign Trade,

B-21, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi- 110016



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Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Department of Commerce

Government of India