

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1241
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2020**

E-CREDENTIALING SPECIFICATION

1241. SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI:

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is developing an e-Credentialing specification, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the estimated cost of the project and the estimated timeline for its implementation; and
- (c) whether the Government has worked on a business model for the private sector players involved in the project and if so, the details thereof?;

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
(SHRI R.K. SINGH)**

- (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Government is developing the Electronic Skill Credential Standard (ESCS) Specification.

Directorate General of Training (DGT), Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship proposes to issue digital 'e-Credentials / eCertificates' which are freely portable for candidates and easily verifiable at scale by employers and job matching platforms but continue to allow print and other visual forms for human consumption. This would enable candidates to verifiably state their skill levels with a high degree of trust in authenticity to aggregators, matchers, and employers. Now in the DGT ecosystem, all the certificates are 'eCertificates', digitally signed.

e-Credentials are an electronic schema-based standard for describing credentials data in a machine-readable format (JSON-LD representation of RDFa-Resource Description Framework, a web standard) along with its printable human-friendly version to make credential exchange between digital agents open and reliable. Certificates issued according to this specification can be aligned to one or more educational standards. They are secured using digital signatures. These will also be pushed in DigiLocker.

This standard is an open standard, free to use, and does not cost anything extra to the Government or the student.
