

- it provides for establishment of the State Mining Regulatory Authority consisting of such persons as may be prescribed by the State Government to exercise the powers and functions in respect of minor minerals;
- it provides for establishment of the National Mining Tribunal and State Mining Tribunal to exercise jurisdiction, powers and authority conferred on it under the proposed legislation;
- it empowers the State Governments to constitute Special Courts for the purpose of providing speedy trial of the offences relating to illegal mining;
- it provides for stringent punishments for contravention of certain provisions of the proposed legislation; and

(c) The Government has moved a proposal for introducing the draft MMDR Bill, 2011 in the Winter session of the Parliament.

Survey of minerals in Assam

2874. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are different kinds of minerals in Assam;
- (b) whether any fresh survey has been conducted to have an estimate of availability of different kinds of minerals in the State;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. The State of Assam is endowed with a number of mineral commodities such as crude oil, natural gas, coal, limestone, iron ore, silica sand, sillimanite, clay and pyrochlore. Radioactive minerals are also reported in Assam.

(b) Yes. Geological Survey of India (GSI) has carried out fresh surveys to identify mineral potential of different mineral commodities in Assam except for crude oil, natural gas and radioactive minerals since these do not come under GSI's purview.

(c) The district-wise details of fresh surveys conducted by GSI are as follows :

Mineral	District
Silica (Glass) sand	Nagaon District during field season programme 2008-09 and 2009-10
Coal	Dhubri, Kamrup, Darang, Nagaon, Goalpara and Kokrajhar Districts in field season programme 2010-12

Further, the details of the surveys conducted by the State Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Assam, are as follows :

Mineral	District
Coal	Karbi, Anglong, Dima and Hasao
Limestone	Dima, Hasao
China Clay	Karbi, Anglong
Iron ore	Dhubri, Goalpara
Sillimanite	Karbi, Anglong
Glass Sand	Nagaon
Granite	Goalpara, Kamrup, Karbi Anglong

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Reservation in educational institutions

2875. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to provide reservation to Muslims in educational institutions and employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is yet to decide about the percentage of reservation to be extended to Muslims; and

(d) if so, whether any discussions have been held in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT PALA):
(a) to (d) As regards reservation for minorities including Muslims, the National Commission for