

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether it is a fact that after sparing almost a year and a half, both Government and BCI have arrived at a compromise and BCI would continue to control legal education and Government would have control over diplomas and degrees such as Bachelor of Academic Laws; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Human Resource Development has introduced "The Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011" in the Rajya Sabha on 28.12.2011. The Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011 has been referred to the Department-Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development and is pending consideration before the Committee. The Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011 provides for constitution of Expert Advisory Groups, consisting of such number of persons as may be deemed fit, for assisting the General Council in advising the National Commission for Higher Education and Research. The head of the Bar Council of India shall preside over the Expert Advisory Group concerning legal education.

(c) and (d) The Bar Council of India has informed that the Hon'ble Human Resource Development Minister *vide* his letters dated 06.07.2012 and 30.07.2012 has assured that the powers of the BCI in relation to educational institutions leading to grant of degree for the practice of law shall not be affected by the proposed Higher Education and Research Bill, 2011.

Hearing of writ petitions in Supreme Court

1641. SHRI M. RAMA JOIS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that writ petitions challenging the constitutional validity of Right to Education Act and clause (5) to Article 15 and Article 21-A of the Constitution of India were referred by a bench of three Judges of the Supreme Court to the Constitution Bench of five Judges by order dated 6 September, 2010 but were finally heard and decided by a three judge bench by judgment dated 12 April, 2012; and

(b) whether the Central Government, a respondent in the above case, objected to the hearing of the writ petitions by a three judge bench?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Profit sharing rule

1642. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 26 per cent profit-sharing rule for miners may be eased; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government has introduced a draft Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2011 (MMDR Bill 2011) in the Lok Sabha on 12th December, 2011 which provides that in case of coal minerals, a mining lease holder shall pay a sum equivalent to 26% of profit to the District Mineral Foundation to be set up at District level. The draft Bill has been referred to the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel by the Lok Sabha and recommendations are awaited.

Bauxite deposits

1643. SHRIMATI T. RATNABAI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that massive bauxite deposits have recently been found in Visakhapatnam District in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the role of the private players in this regard; and

(c) how Government would use such a large quantity of bauxite and for what purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) As per available information, no recent discovery of bauxite deposits have been reported in Visakhapatnam district. However, Geological Survey of India had located bauxite deposits in Visakhapatnam district in its exploration between 1969 to 1972 and no private players were involved in this exploration. The total resources of bauxite in Visakhapatnam are estimated at 570.57 million tonnes as on 1.4.2010.