GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4556 TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.03.2017

Verification of Lawyers

4556. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH: SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA:

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

- (a) whether credentials and qualifications of a large number of lawyers were found to be fake by the bar council of India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether several lawyers with years of service in various high courts were found to be holding fake degrees;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has initiated any investigation into the matter;
- (d) whether a decision has been taken in the cases which have been argued by such lawyers; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (e): The Bar Council of India, a statutory body under the Advocates Act, 1961 has informed that the BCI had introduced "Bar Council of India Certificate and Place of Practice (Verification) Rules, 2015", in order to weed-out the farzi, non-practicing and unscrupulous Advocates from the Bar. The said rules were also published in the official Gazette of India after having been seen by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India. The verification of certificates under such circumstances have been found to be necessary by the Hon'ble Apex Court. The Supreme Court of India stayed the said rules in Transfer Case (Civil) No. 126/2015 (Ajayinder Sangwan Vs. Bar Council of Delhi and Ors). The matter is subjudice before the Hon'ble Apex Court. Therefore, until the matter is disposed off by the Supreme Court, the verification process cannot be completed. The next date fixed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in the matter is 30.03.2017.
