

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:15

ANSWERED ON:13.02.2009

ENTRY OF OVERSEAS LAW FIRMS IN THE COIBTRY

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allow entry of overseas finns to the country`s legal profession;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Bar Council of India has opposed the proposal;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the response of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (H.R.BHARDWAJ)

- (a) to (b) The issue of allowing foreign law finns to establish their offices to give legal advice and assistance on foreign law is being discussed with all the stake holders including the Bar Council of India.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) to (e) A litigation is also pending before the Hon`ble High Court of Bombay in Writ Petition No.1526/1995- Lawyers Collective Vs, Bar Council of India & Ors in the entry of foreign iaw firms. The matter is under hearing.The Government will take a decision after considering the views of all stake holders and the outcome of the litigation in the best interest of the legal profession.