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The NATION

Dated 25-01-2011

Reko Diq case in SC

26 Senators apply to become party

OUR STAFF REPORTER

ISLAMABAD – Around 26 Senators on Monday filed applications in the Supreme Court to become party in the case of leasing of Reko Diq gold and copper mines in Balochistan to foreign exploration and mining companies.

Senators Dr Ismail Buledi, Azam Khan Swati, Abdul Ghafoor Haideri, Hafiz Abdul Rasheed and others have filed the application under Article 184(3) of the Constitution. The applicants stated that since the Reko Diq project involves national interest, thus they being citizens of Pakistan should be made party to the case, so that they may be able to inform the court about their reservations on the project. They said handing over of Reko Diq project to foreign companies was not only against the national interest but also a threat to the national de-

fence. Meanwhile, Mehmazai tribe of Balochistan pleaded to the Chief Justice to make them party to the case as well.

The application filed through Raja Abdur Rehman advocate claims that Mehmazai tribe is the actual owner of the Reko Diq area. A three-member Supreme Court bench will resume hearing in Reko Diq case today.

The court will also examine the reply submitted by a foreign company Tethyan Copper Company (Pvt) Ltd (TCC) involved in the project to a contempt of court notice issued to it on January 17 for launching an advertisement campaign in print media over Reko Diq project, despite the matter was sub-judice before the court.

The court would also examine the replies of federal and Balochistan governments on the main petition filed by Tariq Asad advocate against leasing of Reko Diq project.



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