

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5328

ANSWERED ON:29.04.2002

FRAUD IN STOCKS OF DIAMOND AND PRECIOUS STONES .

N.T. SHANMUGAM

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of cases of shortage in diamond and precious stones stocks and some other similar frauds have been detected during the period from 1996-97 onwards in various diamond fields and precious stone mines in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of cases detected so far in each diamond field;
- (c) whether the Government have constituted several Committees to examine such cases;
- (d) if so, the details of such Committees and their salient features;
- (e) the details of recommendations made by each Committee thereon;
- (f) whether all the guilty officials/employees have so far been punished according to the recommendations of the Committees;
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor indicating the details of case which have not been finalised till date; and
- (h) the efforts being made by the Government to dispose of the remaining cases expeditiously?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) & (b) State Governments grant mineral concessions and collect royalty in respect of any mineral removed or consumed by the lessee and dead rent under Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation)Act 1957. Collection of royalty is based on removal and consumption of minerals. As no royalty is collected by the Central Government, no information relating to removal of diamond and precious stones or any other minerals and shortage thereof, is centrally maintained.

(c) to (h) In recent past, no Committee for the said purpose has been set up by the Central Government.