

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2483
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000
CONTRACT FOR MINING TO FOREIGN COMPANIES
VIJAY GOEL

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

- (a) whether the mining contract for Dev Bhog mines in Madhya Pradesh has been awarded to the foreign companies;
- (b) if so, the names of such foreign companies;
- (c) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding irregularities committed in the procedure for awarding contracts to these foreign companies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (f) the criteria being adopted by the Union Government to award contracts to the foreign companies; (g) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has followed the criteria fully; and (h) if not, the reaction of the Government in this direction?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS
(SMT. RITA VERMA)

(a) : No, Sir. Under Section 5(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, only an Indian national or a company as defined in sub-section (1) of Section (3) of the Companies Act, 1956 can be granted a mining lease for exploration of minerals. As such, under the existing scheme of the mining legislation, a foreign company is not allowed to undertake mining operations.

(b) to (h) : Does not arise.