

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2877
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2006
MINING COOPERATION WITH NAMIBIA
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

:

- (a) Whether External Affairs Minister of Namibia has recently met Union Minister for Mines ;
- (b) If so, whether Namibia has shown their interest for cooperation with India in Mining sector ;
- (c) If so, the details in this regard; and
- (d) The reaction of Union Government thereon ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) The Namibian side informed that Namibia has rich mineral resources like diamond, copper, gold, uranium and zinc, which are yet to be explored and exploited. It was also informed that Namibia has a vibrant small-scale mining sector. The Namibian side sought the help of India to explore and exploit their mineral deposits, which will contribute to the socio-economic upliftment of that country.

(d) The Indian side offered assistance by the Geological Survey of India, Indian Bureau of Mines, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, etc. to Namibia for exploration and exploitation of their mineral resources after specific areas of co-operation are firmed up.