

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:246

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008

PROJECTS IN MINING SECTOR

Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Mahato Shri Narahari

**Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the major ongoing projects in the mining sector and the details of investment proposed thereon project -wise
- (b) whether the Government has initiated reform process in mines sector to attract foreign direct investment for value added projects
- (c) if so the details thereof and
- (d) the details of private sector and foreign direct investment proposals received cleared pending during each of the last three years and the current year state wise

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF MINES(SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a)to(d) A statement is laid on the table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 246 FOR REPLY ON 16.12.2008 ASKED BY SHRI NARAHARI MAHATO AND SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE, MP REGARDING PROJECTS IN MINING SECTOR

(a) While minerals are classified as `major` and `minor`, mining activities have not been classified as major or minor projects. However, assuming that mining leases over an area of 500 hectares or more may be taken as major mining projects, the Government has conveyed prior approval in 56 such proposals, between the period 1.4.1998 till 12.12.2008, details of which are enclosed as annexure. The proposed investment in such cases is one of the parameters which can be considered by the concerned State Governments while recommending grant, and the same are not centrally maintained.

(b)&(c) The new National Mineral Policy inter-alia enunciates policy measures like assured right to next stage mineral concession, transferability and transparency in order to encourage private investment including foreign direct investment The Policy also enunciates that value addition within the same State as a forward linkage to mining will be encouraged to attract investment in general.

(d) Foreign Direct Investment in the mining sector (except atomic minerals) is allowed on automatic route. Prior approval of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) is required only in case of titanium bearing minerals. Also, there is no general clearance of investment proposals in Central Government.