

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6270
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2010
STATUS OF MINING LEASE
Deshmukh Shri K. D.

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of applications/recommendations received from the State Governments including Madhya Pradesh for seeking prior approval of mining lease of various minerals including manganese and bauxite during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and mineral-wise;
- (b) the present status of such applications during the said period, State-wise and mineral-wise;
- (c) the number of applications still pending with the Government alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) the time by which the pending applications are likely to be cleared, State-wise and mineral-wise including manganese and bauxite; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for early disposal of such applications?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (d): Details of the mineral concession applications for various minerals recommended by the State Governments seeking prior approval of the Central Government alongwith the present status of each application i.e. disposal, pendency and reason for pendency are available on the website of the Ministry of Mines (www.mines.nic.in). The applications recommended by the State Government need to be examined in the light of the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 and the rules and guidelines framed thereunder, and where necessary, in consultation with the State Governments and other agencies concerned. As such, no time frame for their disposal can be indicated.

(e): The Ministry of Mines is conscious of the need to have a transparent and efficient system for processing the mineral concession cases and has taken several steps in this direction, as mentioned below:

(i) A Central Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee has been constituted in the Ministry of Mines on 4.3.2009 to monitor and minimize delays in grant of approvals for mineral concessions. The Committee consists of the Central Ministries/Departments concerned and the Secretaries in charge of Mining & Geology in the States. The Committee has met twice – on 24th July, 2009 and 22nd December, 2009 and has taken important decisions aimed at improving the mineral concession system. The State Governments have been advised to similarly constitute Coordination Committees at the State level.

(ii) The Ministry of Mines is using the internet services to bring about more accessibility and transparency in processing the mineral concession proposals recommended by the State Governments. The website of the Ministry (www.mines.nic.in) provides all information on the current status of the applications for mineral concessions. These services are being further enhanced to track the process from approval for grant to execution of concession agreement.

(iii) The Ministry has, in consultation with the State Governments, issued detailed guidelines on 24.6.2009 and 9.2.2010 in order to bring more clarity in processing the mineral concession proposals.

(iv) The Ministry has framed a Model State Mineral Policy and circulated it to all State Governments on 12.10.2009 with the request to finalise and adopt a Mineral Policy as per their priority and requirements.