

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:363
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010
LAND OCCUPATION BY PRIVATE MINING COMPANIES
Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that some private mining companies in the country have illegally occupied Government land;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government/State Governments to get such land vacated;
- (c) the number of court cases pending with the courts; and
- (d) the number of existing companies/Central Public Sector Undertakings engaged in mining activities which have obtained environmental clearance?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): State Government grants mineral concession as the owners of minerals. Prior approval of Central Government is necessary before grant of mineral concession in respect of specified minerals listed in the First Schedule of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957. The existing provisions in Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 allow an applicant to submit the NOC before the commencement of mining operations. Data on private mining companies which illegally occupied government land, the number of court cases pending and the number of existing companies/Central Public Sector Undertakings engaged in mining activities which have obtained environmental clearance are not centrally maintained since the statutory powers are exercised by the State Governments. However, the Central Government is administering the National Land Records Modernization Programme (NRLMP) for modernization of the land records system in the country.