

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2657
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2010
POLICY FOR MINING OF STONES
Patel Shri R.K. Singh

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any policy for mining of stones;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some of the States have violated the directions of the Supreme Court on mining of stones;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith the number of such cases reported and the action taken in each case during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken by the Government to curb such violations in future?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): State Governments grant mineral concessions as the owners of the minerals. The Central Government has notified the Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 and Marble Conservation and Development Rules, 2002 with regard to systematic and scientific exploitation of granite and marble throughout the country.

(c) and (d): Data on violations of Supreme Court directions on mining of stones are not centrally maintained. However, as per available information, vide Supreme Court order dated 19.2.2010, 157 mines in Aravalli hills of Rajasthan have been restrained from mining till further orders and the matter is sub-judice. In Haryana, all mining operations have been closed since 1.3.2010.

(e): The Central Government has requested the State Governments to prepare Action Plan to monitor and curb illegal mining, which includes the use of satellite imagery and other intelligence inputs, constitution of State Level Coordination Committee to discuss various issues related to the mining sector, and formulation of State Mineral Policy.