

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2284
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009
EXTRACTION AND EXPORT OF GRANITE
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahb

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes/programmes undertaken for extraction of granite and improving and upgrading mining technology in the country;
- (b) the granite reserves available in the country, State-wise and location-wise;
- (c) the quantum of granite exported during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) whether export of granite has slowed down in the recent years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Granite is a minor mineral defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) and as per Section 15 of the MMDR Act, 1957, all powers to make rules and grant mineral concessions for minor minerals have been given to the concerned State Government. The Central Government has notified the Granite Conservation and Development Rules, 1999 on 1st June, 1999, to conserve the granite resources and to prescribe a uniform frame work with regard to systematic and scientific exploitation of granite throughout the country.

The Central Government has constituted a Granite Development Council (GDC) including various stakeholders to discuss and redressal issues raised by granite industry.

(b) As per available information, as on 1.4.2005 an estimated reserve of 1130 million cubic meters of reserves are available in the country, of which 86% are located in Madhya Pradesh, 7% in Orissa and the remaining 7% are located in the States of Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.

(c) As per available information, details of export of granite and granite products from India in terms of quantity and value from 2005-06 to 2008-09 are as under :-

Year Value (in Rs. Lakhs)

2005-06 349059.10

2006-07 472484.20

2007-08 428748.50

2008-09 437052.10

(d) & (e) As per available information, in the year 2007-08, there had been a decline of 9% in the exports of granite and products over

the previous year. Exports of granite had been hit especially in the US market and other developed markets because of the allegation on emission of radioactive radon.

(f) Government provides opportunities for buyer-seller meet through Chemicals & Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) and promotion of industry through schemes like Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme, grant of Duty Entitlement Passbook credit etc.