

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:321

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010

MINING ACTIVITIES

Biswal Shri Hemanand ;Munda Shri Arjun

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether mining activities are undertaken in several parts of the country including the tribal areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the welfare schemes/programmes undertaken by the mining companies in the tribal areas of the country alongwith the expenditure incurred thereon during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) whether there are reports of protests by farmers/tribals against the acquisition of their land for mining;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of complaints received regarding compensation to the affected persons including farmers and tribals in such areas during the said period, State-wise; and
- (f) the details of the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of farmers and tribals in this regard as per the obligations outlined in the National Mineral Policy, 2008?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERED TO IN REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 321 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 17th AUGUST, 2010 REGARDING MINING ACTIVITIES

(a) & (b): Details of mining leases granted for undertaking mining in respect of major minerals (excluding coal, atomic, minor minerals) in the States including those with tribal areas are given in Annexure.

(c) : As per available information, some of the mining companies are contributing towards peripheral development around the mining areas, e.g. on housing, water supply, medical facilities, education etc. However, details of contribution of these companies for peripheral development are not centrally maintained, since the leases are granted by State Governments.

(d) and (e): State Governments grant mineral concessions as the owner of the minerals. Acquisition of land is also a subject matter of the State Governments. Since the acquisition is done by State Governments, relief and rehabilitations in such cases is as per the Relief & Rehabilitation Policy of the State Government concerned. However, recognizing the fact that the existing Mines and Minerals(Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 does not have adequate provisions to address the concerns of tribal people and other host population, Ministry of Mines is in the process of drafting a new law, which will better address issues relating to sharing of profits from mining operations and having a say with regard to mining activities. Several options in this regard are under consideration.

(f) : The National Mineral Policy, 2008, enunciates optimum utilization of resources, developing and enforcing a framework of sustainable development that ensures that mining activity takes place alongwith suitable measures for restoration of the ecological balance particularly in tribal and forest areas, and developing models of stakeholders interest based on international best practices and ensuring orderly and systematic mine closure to enable rehabilitation.

As per provisions of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988, all mining lease holders are required to prepare a Mine Closure Plan and submit financial guarantee for this purpose. The Government has also commenced preparation of a draft Sustainable Development Framework for ensuring sustainable mining in line with the direction contained in the National Mineral Policy, which will take into account the concerns of all stakeholders, particularly the tribals. The framework will be implemented through executive instructions and will be given statutory basis under the new law.

ANNEXURE MENTIONED IN STATEMENT TO STARRED QUESTION NO. 321 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 17th AUGUST, 2010 REGARDING MINING ACTIVITIES

STATE WISE DISTRIBUTION OF MINING LEASES GRANTED FOR UNDERTAKING MINING (EXCLUDING COAL, ATOMIC AND MINOR MINERALS)

Sl.
No. State No. of Leases Lease area (Hect.)

1	ANDHRA PRADESH		1578	54470.79
2	ASSAM	8	929.50	
3	BIHAR	10	2030.16	
4	CHHATTISGARH		312	17650.66
5	GOA	422	31457.43	
6	GUJARAT	1228	27962.54	
7	HIMACHAL PRADESH		54	2027.18
8	HARYANA	108	11471.52	
9	JAMMU & KASHMIR		55	1814.75
10	JHARKHAND	323	36974.67	
11	KARNATAKA	693	57398.26	
12	KERALA	109	3042.12	
13	MANIPUR	2	610.17	
14	MEGHALAYA	19	1433.97	
15	MADHYA PRADESH		948	28442.41
16	MAHARASHTRA	280	17703.21	
17	ORISSA	387	67212.90	
18	RAJASTHAN	2168	106848.85	
19	SIKKIM	3	96.30	
20	TAMIL NADU		482	6652.01
21	UTTAR PRADESH		88	9290.11
22	UTTARANCHAL	69	3077.78	
23	WEST BENGAL		70	4090.10
	sum	9416	492687.39	