

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:461
ANSWERED ON:11.11.2010
RENEWAL OF MINING LEASES
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of mines leased to National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC);
- (b) whether some mining leases are due for renewal and the proposal for the lease of fresh mines applied by NMDC is pending with the Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken to clear such mining lease applications for renewal?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP)

- (a): A total of twelve mines for various minerals have been leased to NMDC Ltd. in the country.
- (b)&(c): Two mining leases viz. Panna main mining lease and Panna supplementary mining lease for diamonds are due for renewal. NMDC has applied for renewal of these two mining leases. However, the renewal of mining leases is awaited. Besides, NMDC has applied to many state governments viz. the Government of Chhattisgarh, the Government of Karnataka, the Government of Jharkhand, the Government of Orissa, the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the Government of Andhra Pradesh and the Government of Jammu & Kashmir for grant of many new mining leases for minerals including iron ore, manganese, dolomite, gold, bauxite, coal, diamond and sapphire. Most of these applications are pending with the concerned State Governments, while some are sub-judice. One of the application is pending with Ministry of Mines, Government of India for grant of prior approval on behalf of the Central Government.
- (d): NMDC is pursuing the matter with the concerned State Governments as well as Ministry of Mines. As and when required, Ministry of Steel also takes up matter with the concerned authorities.