

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2371

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010

MINING OF TIME STONE

Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben;Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai;Pathak Shri Harin

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether mining of lime stone and other similar minerals is prohibited within the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) area;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the ban is also applicable to those mining leases which were granted before 1991;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposed to amend the CRZ Notification based on recommendation made by the Prof. Swaminathan Committee;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether some State Governments including Gujarat have requested to allow the mining activities in the CRZ areas subject to strict compliance of environmental protection measures and also based on the technical studies; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the decisions taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH):

(a) and (b) : The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 prohibits mining of lime stone and other minerals, except rare minerals in the CRZ areas.

(c) and (d) : All mining leases, even if granted before 1991 for mining in the Coastal Regulation Zone area, are to be considered under the provisions of the CRZ Notification, 1991 for protection of coastal environment.

(e) and (f) : The recommendations of Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee report dated 16th July, 2009 included strengthening of the existing CRZ Notification, 1991. Accordingly, the Ministry of Environment and Forests had issued the draft CRZ Notification, 2010 inviting suggestions and objections before 16th November, 2010, in accordance with the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(g) and (h) : A few States, including the State of Gujarat, have requested for permitting mining of certain minerals including lime stone, in the CRZ area.