

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4545
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010
CLOSURE OF MINING UNITS
Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mining units closed down in the country in compliance of courts` order taking into account the environmental hazards around mining areas and the number of workers affected therein; and

(b) the safeguards ensured in this context to address the environmental issues and steps taken to approach the court to seek modification of its orders in the larger interest of the mining industry?

Answer

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

(a) : As per available information, the following are the mining activities suspended:

(i) In Rajasthan, Supreme Court vide order dated 19.2.2010, restrained 157 mines in Aravalli hills of Rajasthan from mining till further orders. The matter is sub-judice.

(ii) In Haryana all mining operations have been closed since 1.3.2010 except sand mining in Sonapat and Panipat.

(iii) In Andhra Pradesh 6 mines were suspended. The suspension orders for 6 mines, was quashed by the High Court of Andhra Pradesh. However, Supreme Court of India ordered survey of the area, and till then mining operations are suspended.

(iv) In Meghalaya mining operations in limestone mine of M/s Laffarge India Private Limited have been suspended. The matter is sub-judice. Details of number of workers affected due to suspension of mining activities in compliance of the court's order are not centrally maintained.

(b) : As per available information, State Government of Haryana is pursuing the matter with Supreme Court of India for allowing mining of construction material over an area of 600 hectares in Faridabad and 1500 hectares in the districts of Gurgaon including Mewat.