

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2728

ANSWERED ON:11.03.2011

MINING LEASE

Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rights of small mineral mining lease and survey licences lies with State Governments;
- (b) if so, whether the State Governments have the rights to downsize the same;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the number of times prior permission of Union Government have been taken during each of the last three years and the current year; State-wise including Rajasthan?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a): The State Governments are competent to grant mineral concessions viz. Reconnaissance Permit (RP), Prospecting Licence (PL) and Mining Lease (ML) under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957. However, prior approval of the Central Government is required under Section 5 (1) of the Act for grant of RP, PL and ML in respect of Atomic and Metallic Minerals specified in Parts 'B' and 'C' of the First Schedule to the Act.

(b) & (c): Mining leases etc. are executed by the State Governments with mining agencies after they obtain environment and forest clearances from the Ministry of Environment & Forests and approval of mining plan from the Indian Bureau of Mines. The size of a mineral concession is dependent on these clearances/ approval. However, as per Rule 22 D of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, the minimum area for grant of mining lease shall not be less than four hectares in respect of all mineral deposits other than small deposits or beach sand deposits.

(d): A statement showing the number of prior approvals given by the Central Government for the minerals specified in Parts 'B' & 'C' of the First Schedule to the Act during the last 3 years and the current year (up to 9.3.2011), State-wise including Rajasthan is at ANNEXURE.