

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4998

ANSWERED ON:02.09.2011

LAND ACQUISITION FOR MINING PROJECTS

Biswal Shri Hemanand ;Laguri Shri Yashbant Narayan Singh;Lal Shri Kirodi ;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large area of tribal land has been acquired for mining including coal projects in Chhattisgarh and Orissa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including statute under which land acquired;
- (c) whether approval for land acquisition of the said area has been accorded by all the concerned authorities including Gram Sabha;
- (d) if so, the details of such authorities/agencies granting approval;
- (e) if not, the reasons for acquiring such land without following the due process of law; and
- (f) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): Land for mining purpose may consist either of voluntary agreement between the land owner and the miner or land acquisition by the requiring bodies/ State/UT. Information regarding the acquisition of land for mining activities is not maintained by the Ministry of Mines, since State Governments grant mineral concessions as the owner of the minerals and acquisition of land if done for mining purposes is done by the State Governments.

The Government has announced the new National Mineral Policy, 2008, which seeks to develop a sustainable framework for optimum utilisation of the country's natural mineral resources for the industrial growth in the country and at the same time improving the life of people living in the mining areas, which are generally located in the backward and tribal regions of the country. The new Mineral policy also enunciates that special care will be taken to protect the interest of host and indigenous (tribal) populations through developing models of stakeholder interest based on international best practice. Project affected persons will be protected through comprehensive relief and rehabilitation packages in line with the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy.