

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2681  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2011  
MINING MAFIA  
McLeod Smt. Ingrid; Thomas Shri P. T.

**Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken note of operation of mining mafia in States and grabbing of tribals` land by them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government to check diversion of tribals` land and restore alienated land;
- (c) whether on the recommendations of Second Administrative Reforms Commission, the Union Government has advised the State Governments to establish special anti-extortion and anti-money laundering cells to prevent nexus between illegal mining/forest mafia, transporters and extremists;
- (d) if so, the progress made by the State Governments in establishing such cells; and
- (e) the other effective measures taken by the Union Government in co-operation with State Governments to check activities of mining mafia?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINES (SHRI DINSHAPATEL)

(a)and(b): Land being a state subject, details of diversion of tribals` land for mining activities are not maintained centrally. However, one complaint of grabbing of tribals` land has come to the notice of Central Government which has been referred to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for necessary action.

(c)and(d): The State Governments had been advised to establish special anti-extortion and anti-money laundering cell in States to prevent any nexus between illegal mining/forest contractors, transporters and extremists. 21 State Governments have constituted Task Force at State and District Level for monitoring illegal mining.

(e): The Central Government is responsible for ensuring the proper regulation and development of mineral resources in the country and the Parliament has enacted the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. While section 23C of the said Act provides for State Government to formulate Rules to control illegal mining, the Central Government has been advising and coordinating activities and initiatives to help all States, to curb illegal mining, inter-alia as follows:-

# The State Governments have been advised to set up State Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee (SCEC) to coordinate efforts to control illegal mining by including representatives of Railways, Customs and Port authorities. Separately the State Governments have also been advised to prepare and adopt an Action Plan with specific measures to detect and control illegal mining including, use of remote sensing, control on traffic, gather market intelligence, registration of end-users and setting up of special cells etc.

# State governments to immediately start the process of strengthening their Directorate of Mining and Geology, which has been made a part of the action plan to be monitored by Central Government.

# Eighteen States have framed Rules under Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to check illegal mining as per the instruction of Central Government.

# The State Governments detected 78189 cases of illegal mining of minor and major minerals during the year 2010-11 as compared to 69316 cases detected in the year 2009-10.

# All State Governments were requested to include representatives of Railways, Customs, Ports and in case of iron ore producing States, representative of Ministry of Steel in the State Coordination-cum-Empowered Committees set up in the State, for sharing the data on movement of minerals and better monitoring of the transportation and export of ore.

# All State Governments were asked to impose the special condition under Rule 27(3) of Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, for ensuring that all the mining lease holders assess the resources in their leases as per UNFC.

# A Central Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee has been set by Government, with representation from State Governments and Central Ministries concerned, to consider all mining related issues, including specifically, matters relating to coordination of activities to combat illegal mining at regular intervals.

# The Government has amended Rule 45 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 vide notification G. S. R. 75(E) dated 9.2.2011 making it mandatory for all miners, traders, stockists, exporters and end-users to register with the Indian Bureau of Mines and report on movement of minerals to Indian Bureau of Mines and State Government. Such end-to-end accounting will reduce the scope for transportation illegally mined minerals, including export of iron ore.

# The Central Government has appointed Shri Justice M. B. Shah Commission of Inquiry under the Commission of Inquiry Act, 1952 to inquire into the large scale mining of iron ore and manganese ore without lawful authority in several States vide Notification S. O. 2817 dated 22nd November, 2010. The Commission has started functioning.

# Central Government through the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) has constituted Special Task Force for inspection of mines in endemic areas by taking the help of satellite imageries. As on 1.12.2011, the Special Task Force has conducted inspections in a total of 434 mines in the States of Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Orissa, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. While IBM had suspended 152 mines after the inspection, suspension has been revoked after compliance of the rules in case of 96 mines. IBM has further, recommended termination of 8 leases to the State Governments.