

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1784

ANSWERED ON:23.03.2012

POTENTIAL OF MINERAL SECTOR

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Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to unlock the potential of the Indian Minerals Sector in the country and preparing a detailed strategic plan in this regard;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the priorities identified under the said plan; and
- (d) the time by which the plan is likely to become operational?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The Strategy Paper for Ministry of Mines titled Unlocking the Potential of the Indian Minerals Sector has identified that the mining sector has the potential to contribute around Rs. 945 to Rs. 1,125 thousand crore to the GDP and create 13 to 15 million jobs through direct and indirect contribution by 2025. To achieve this, the Strategy paper has identified six key priorities including enhancing resource and reserve base through exploration and international acquisition; reducing permit delays; putting in place core enablers (infrastructure, human capital, technology); ensuring sustainable mining and sustainable development around mining; creating an information, education and communication strategy; and undertaking measures to ensure implementation. The Government has already initiated action on the six key initiatives.