

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2411

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012

BAN ON MINING OF LIMESTONE

Jardosh Smt. Darshana Vikram;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

**Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has banned the mining of limestone and other similar minerals within the Coastal Regulatory Zone (CRZ) areas as it was prohibited as per earlier CRZ notification, 1991;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any scientific study/base for prohibiting limestone and other such mineral mining in CRZ areas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether mining of limestone and other similar minerals can be permitted, where there is an elevated coastal area as well as cliff kind of structure;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether some State Governments have taken up the issue of allowing the mining activities in the CRZ areas subject to strict compliance of environmental protection measures and also based on the technical studies for above mentioned areas; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (g) The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011 prohibits the mining of sand, rocks and other substrata material including limestone except rare minerals like, monazite, rutile etc. and exploitation of oil and natural gas, this provision has been made in view of likely adverse impact of such mining on the coastal environment, including sea water intrusion. This provision is uniformly applicable in CRZ areas including elevated coastal areas. The earlier CRZ Notification 1991 also had a similar provisions. While finalizing the CRZ Notification, 2011 inputs from various Stakeholders including the State Governments were taken into consideration.