

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2224
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012
STRENGTHENING OF MINING ACTIVITIES
Virendra Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to strengthen mining activities using modern technique and enlarging human resources;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to provide additional allocation for Research & Development Works, keeping in view the limited financial resources of State Governments; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the additional amount is likely to be provided?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): The Government has approved the restructuring of the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) and the Geological Survey of India (GSI) for increasing the efficiency of mineral exploration and mineral development in the country, including use of modern techniques and enlarging human resources.

(c) and (d): GSI has identified an additional budget requirement of Rs.172.0 crores in the XII Five Year Plan period for Research and Development (R&D) in Geosciences. The Working Group on Mineral Exploration and Development (other than coal and lignite) for the XII Five Year Plan (2012-17) in its report to the Government has identified an additional allocation of Rs.275.00 crores for Research & Development, inter-alia, for improved mining methods, basic R&D facilities for Small and Medium Enterprises, deep mining activities, National R&D fund for Grant-in-Aid for research activities, and strengthening of State Directorates of Mining and Geology for ore testing and beneficiation studies. These additional outlays are proposed XII Five Year Plan projections for the mining sector and are a component of annual budgetary exercise of the Government and for the reason specific timelines cannot be indicated.