

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3265
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012
MINING IN UNION TERRITORIES
Patel Shri Lalubhai

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to improve the condition of mining sector by encouraging mining in Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar, Union Territories;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (b): There is no such proposal in the Government, since as per available information, there are no major deposits of minerals in the Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar islands, except some limestone deposits identified in Daman and Diu. No mineral production for major minerals has also been reported from Union Territories.

(c): Mineral production depends broadly on availability of mineral resources, economic viability, demand of market etc. Further, in order to incentivise and encourage exploration and mining activities, the Government has enunciated National Mineral Policy, 2008 for non-coal and non-fuel mineral sector which is equally applicable for Union Territories.