

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4428
ANSWERED ON:07.09.2012
ATTACK ON OFFICERS BY MINING MAFIA
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Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of incidents of deadly attacks on senior IPS officers, police constables and other officials/innocent persons by the mining mafia;
- (b) if so, the details of such incidents reported in the country, particularly in Madhya Pradesh and Haryana during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) the number of persons arrested and convicted, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to create a special force to check activities of mining mafia and to save lives of honest officers so as to protect our natural resources and ensure their optimum utilisation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): Illegal mining and its regulation through law & order comes under purview of the State Government. Since State Governments have been empowered to deal with cases of illegal mining, specific details on number of persons arrested and convicted are not centrally maintained in the Ministry. However, the year-wise details of cases of illegal mining detected and action taken by State Governments, till March 2012, as reported by the State Governments, are as follows:

Details of State - wise Illegal Mining cases
Action Taken Up to March 2012

S. No.	State	2012					Seized	Lodged	filed (Rs. In Lakhs)
		Court (upto realized)	Vehicle	FIR	cases	Fine			
1	Andhra Pradesh	11591	17882	13949	5964	844	18	519	12361.08
2	Andaman & Nicobar	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0.05
3	Chhattisgarh	1078	2017	1841	1105	3363	0	8502	1336.539
4	Goa	9	13	1	0	459	0	0	18.628
5	Gujarat	5416	2184	2389	1096	2780	247	20	11707.89
6	Haryana	1372	3446	2022	0	103	467	21	907.767
7	Himachal Pradesh	1114	1213	1289	0	0	700	1306	1684.55
8	Jharkhand	15	411	594	216	136	285	30	48.843
9	Karnataka	1687	4949	4870	1821	77553	949	630	8397.407
10	Kerala	1321	2028	1948	1227	0	0	0	1142.201
11	Madhya Pradesh	3868	4245	5299	1848	0	2741	25610	6558.837
12	Maharashtra	8270	26563	28829	11813	91331	13	1	10465.37
13	Mizoram	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
14	Orissa	758	420	309	0	1823	39	36	5720.71
15	Punjab	73	754	194	120	61	67	0	386.266
16	Rajasthan	4711	1833	821	380	224	1250	48	1455.736
17	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Tamilnadu	215	277	99	24	36814	1421	617	11603.37
19	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	683	0	0	38.5
20	Uttar Pradesh	0	4641	4708	0	0	0	0	1674.82
21	West Bengal	80	239	174	25713	3911	1479	430	0

Total 41578 73115 69337 25713 220085 9676 37770 75508.56

(Source: Indian Bureau of Mines, Government of India)

Further, the Central Government is in regular touch with State Governments to assist in prevention of illegal mining and has taken the following steps to curb and check illegal mining in the country:

- (i) State Governments were asked to frame rules to control illegal mining as per Section 23C of MMDR Act (so far 18 States have framed Rules).
- (ii) State Governments were requested to set up Task Forces at State and District level to control illegal mining since the year 2005 (so far 21 States have reported to have set up Task Forces).
- (iii) State Governments were 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 (13 State Governments have set up such Committees).
- (iv) All State Governments advised to 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.
- (v) Ministry of Mines has so far held five meetings with the State Governments to specifically review the action taken by the State Governments on illegal mining on 3.8.2009, 27.11.2009, 22.2.2010, 16.4.2010 and 21.9.2010. This periodical review has been dovetailed in the meeting of Central Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee meetings.
- (vi) A Central Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee set up under Secretary (Mines) on 4.3.2009 has held nine meetings on 24.7.2009, 22.12.2009, 18.6.2010, 22.12.2010, 3.5.2011, 20.9.2011, 16.1.2012, 27.3.2012 and 28.6.2012 to consider all mining related issues, including matters relating to coordination of activities to combat illegal mining.
- (vii) Railways have instituted a mechanism to allow transportation of iron ore only against permits issued rake-wise and verified by State Government, apart from taking measures to fence and set up check post at the railway sidings.
- (viii) Customs Department has issued instructions to all its field units to share information on ore export with State Governments.
- (ix) Ministry of Shipping has issued a direction to all major Ports to streamline the verification procedures for movement of consignment by road and rail to Ports for exports.
- (x) Government has notified amendment in Rule 45 of Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988, on 9.2.2011 making it mandatory for all miners, traders, stockist, exporters and end-users to register with IBM and report their transaction in minerals on monthly basis for a proper end-to-end accounting of minerals. As on 11.6.2012, out of 9409 mining leases in the country, 8027 mining leases have registered online with the IBM. The IBM has suspended 1587 mines for non-compliance and initiated prosecution in 4 cases and recommended 21 cases to State Governments for termination. IBM has also requested the State Governments not to issue transit passes for movement of minerals to unregistered operators.
- (xi) Indian Bureau Mines had constituted Special Task Forces for inspection of mines in endemic areas by taking the help of Satellite imageries. Special Task Force conducted inspections in a total of 454 mines in the States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand and Gujarat and suspended 155 mines under rule 13(2) of Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 due to serious violations. Further, the Indian Bureau of Mines have recommended for termination of eight leases.
- (xii) In so far as the online approval of mining plans and display of approved mining plans in the public domain is concerned, it is submitted that the Ministry is developing 'Mining Tenement System (MTS)' to automate the various processes associated with the mineral concession regime with features also to reflect the information as desired above.
- (xiii) The Central Government has also set up Shri Justice M. B. Shah Commission of Inquiry (COI) for illegal mining of iron ore and manganese vide gazette notification dated 22.11.2010. The COI submitted its First Interim Report on 14.7.2011, which has been tabled in the Parliament alongwith the Memorandum of Action Taken. The tenure of the COI has been extended till 16th July, 2013 by the Government. COI has so far visited Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Jharkhand, Karnataka and Odisha.