

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4142  
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013  
PRICE OF MINERALS  
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarya Swamy

**Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the prices of minerals are increasing constantly in the country during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the extent of increase in their prices from 2007-08 to 2011-12;
- (c) whether the employment in the mining sector has gone down due to increasing use of machines; and
- (d) if so, the quantum of reduction in employment during the said period?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b): The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) for minerals (Base year 2004-05=100) increased from 152.78 in the year 2007-08 to 320.65 in the year 2011-12.

(c) & (d): As per available information, the average employment in mining sector (excluding fuel and minor minerals) in the year 2007-08 was 132235 persons and in the year 2011-12 was 135076 persons, showing an increase of 2%.