

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3257  
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2013  
POTENTIAL OF MINERAL SECTOR  
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently prepared a strategic paper titled 'Unlocking the potential of the Indian Mineral Sector';
- (b) if so, the details and the contents thereof;
- (c) whether the paper has set forth any target on employment generation and supplementing India's GDP through the mining sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) and (b): Yes Madam. Government has prepared a strategic plan document "Unlocking the potential of the Indian Mineral Sector". The Strategy Paper has been prepared taking into account the vision emanating from the National Mineral Policy, 2008. Mineral being a major resource for development, the extraction and management of minerals has to be integrated into the overall strategy of the country's economic development. The exploitation of minerals is guided by long term national goals and perspectives.

(c) to (e): The Strategy Paper has identified that the mining sector has the potential to contribute around Rs. 945 to Rs. 1,125 thousand crore to the GDP and create 13 to 15 million jobs through direct and indirect contribution by 2025. To achieve this, the Strategy paper has identified six key priorities including enhancing resource and reserve base through exploration and international acquisition; reducing permit delays; putting in place core enablers (infrastructure, human capital, technology); ensuring sustainable mining and sustainable development around mining; creating an information, education and communication strategy; and undertaking measures to ensure implementation. In this regard, action as per 12th Five Year Plan has been initiated by the Government.