

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ATOMIC ENERGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:964  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2013  
BAN ON EXPORT OF MONAZITE  
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has imposed a ban on the export of Monazite from the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether some private companies are illegally extracting and exporting this mineral; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government to check extraction and export of Monazite from the country by these private companies?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY) :

(a) No, sir.

(b)&(c) Reports have appeared in certain sections of the press suggesting illegal exports of monazite. Monazite is a prescribed substance under the Atomic Energy Act 1962. Since Monazite is a 'prescribed substance', the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Government of India, as a policy, has restricted all activities in respect of this substance to Government entities only. Indian Rare Earths Ltd. (IREL), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy, is the only organisation that has been permitted till date to export monazite. The Department has not permitted any other individual or company or entity to export monazite. The Department has initiated steps to put in place comprehensive systems to check any such exports, through appropriate pre-export regulatory checks, and radiation monitoring mechanism at Ports.