

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:817
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009
ILLEGAL MINING
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Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether large scale illegal mining of iron ore and other minerals is prevalent in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and mineral-wise;
- (c) the total number of such cases identified and action taken against the persons found guilty during the said period, State-wise including Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh;
- (d) whether the Union Government/State Governments have any monitoring mechanism to stop/control/check such activities;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the manner in which such activities are monitored by the Union Government/State Governments and;
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government including any proposal to make legal changes in the prevailing legal framework to prevent such activities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a) to (c) Some instances of illegal mining of minerals, including iron ore, have come into the notice of the Government in various parts of the country. As per available information cases of illegal mining of major/minor minerals detected by the State Governments during the period starting from the year 2006 to June, 2009 is given in Annexure.

(d) to (f) State Governments have been empowered under the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) to curb illegal mining, transportation & storage etc. The Central Government has also directed State Governments to frame rules under section 23C of MMDR Act, constitute task forces at State/District level for prevention of illegal mining and furnish quarterly returns on illegal mining for review by Ministry of Mines. Central Government also monitors the instances of illegal mining, action taken by the State Governments to curb illegal mining in the review meeting with the Secretaries of State Governments held for the purpose. The Central Government has started the process to introduce legislative changes in terms of the National Mineral Policy, 2008, which enunciates that the States will be assisted to overcome the problem of illegal mining through operational and financial linkages with the Indian Bureau of Mines.

State-wise and year-wise statement of cases of illegal mining reported by the State Government

S. No.	State	Nos. of cases detected by State Governments				Action Taken by State Governments				
		2006	2007	2008	2009	Vehicle	FIRs	Court	Fine	Others
		Upto June 2009	seized	Lodged	filed	cases	realized			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5385	9216	13478	7332	844		2112.95		
2.	Chattisgarh	2259	2352	1713	599			2181	309.16	
3.	Goa	313	13	159	2	322			15.68	
4.	Gujarat	7435	6593	5492	3720	106	114	8	7085.67	

5. Haryana	504	812	1209	416	103	138	2	133.33	
6. Himachal Pradesh	478	-	503	375		464		21.04	
7. Jharkhand	631	82	225	5592	202		39	108.41	
8. Karnataka	3027	5180	2997	692	43585	931	771	3630.13	
9. Kerala	1595	2593	2695	802				532.7	
10. Madhya Pradesh	5050	4581	3895	2542			05	14831	1057.98
11. Maharashtra	4919	3868	5828	3285	15212		13		1129.01
12. Orissa cycles	284	655	1059	365	1242+75		57	86	2309.36
13. Punjab	218	26	50	48					2.96
14. Rajasthan	2359	2265	2178	1130	368	441		59	413.49
15. Tamilnadu	2140	1263	1573	98	18722	133		155	6369.96
16. Uttarakhand	-		191		683				38.50
17. West Bengal	80	426	315	51	3680		897		167