

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4188

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2016

Lease of Bauxite Mining

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Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC) has decided to freeze the bauxite deposit of Kutch for upcoming alumina plant being set up by National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) and as such GMDC has planned to fulfil all raw bauxite demand of the State from other bauxite deposits of Jamnagar region, if so, the details and facts thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is considering eleven bauxite mining lease applications of GMDC in Jamnagar and Kutch districts which has already been forwarded to it in March, 2012;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that the clarifications sought by it have been attended by Gujarat State and replies forwarded for considerations; and
- (e) if so, the time by which these bauxite lease in favour of GMDC are to be approved and if not, the reasons thereof

Answer

(a) In response to the Notice Inviting Bid by GMDC to establish 1 Million Tonne Per Annum (MTPA) alumina refinery based on bauxite reserves in Kutch district, NALCO had submitted bid in October, 2011. However, the project has not started yet as the availability of bauxite of required quality and quantity has not been established for meeting the requirement of the 1MTPA alumina refinery throughout the plant life.

(b)&(c) Eleven Bauxite mining lease (ML) proposals for mines in Jamnagar and Kutch districts for prior approval and relaxation of Section 6 (1)(b) of the Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation (MMDR) Act, 1957 were received in Ministry of Mines. Out of 11 proposals, 4 proposals were returned to the State Government as mineralization in the subject area was not established. For the remaining 7 proposals, the State Government of Gujarat had sent its detailed inputs on 10.2.2016 to Ministry of Mines and the same was forwarded to Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) on 25.2.2016 for their comments on mineralization. Reply has been received from IBM and the matter is under consideration in the Ministry of Mines.

(d)& (e) The clarifications sought by Ministry of Mines in its letters dated 1/9/2015 and 25/2/2016 have been provided by the Government of Gujarat in their letters dated 10/2/2016 and 20/7/2016 which are under consideration in the Ministry of Mines.
