

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:806
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2014
SMALL SCALE MINES
Premachandran Shri N.K.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision regarding environmental clearance to small-scale mines below 5 hectares;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to scrutinize the rules promulgated by State Governments in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to coordinate with State Governments in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

- (a) & (b): The environment clearance cases of minor mineral mining projects upto 5 hectares are considered at the State level by the concerned State Environment Impact Assessment Authority.
- (c) to (e): The Supreme Court, vide its judgment dated 27.02.2012 in I.A. Nos.12-13 of 2011 in Special Leave Petition (C) No.19628-16929 of 2009 titled Deepak Kumar etc. Vs. State of Haryana & Ors. etc. inter alia ordered that State Governments and Union Territories should take immediate steps to frame necessary rules under section 15 of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 taking into account consideration of the recommendations of this Ministry in its report of March 2010 and model guidelines framed by the Ministry of Mines, Government of India. This Ministry has decided to examine such rules framed by the State Governments from environment angle.