

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:469
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2014
MANAGEMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the salient features of the policy laid down by the Government for exploitation and management of mineral resources for economic development of the country;
- (b) the number of minerals being extracted along with quantum of production and value thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) the contribution of minerals in terms of percentage to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country; and
- (d) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to augment production of minerals in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER FOR MINES, STEEL AND LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.469 FOR REPLY ON 11.8.2014 REGARDING 'MANAGEMENT OF MINERAL RESOURCES' ASKED BY SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

(a): The salient features of the National Mineral Policy (NMP) 2008, inter-alia, are as follows:-

- i) Minerals being a valuable resource, extraction has to be optimized through scientific methods, beneficiation and economic utilization. Zero waste mining will be the goal.
- ii) The regulatory environment should be made conducive to investment. Transparency in allocations of concessions should be assured with security of tenure to a concessionaire.
- iii) A framework of sustainable development should be designed to ensure that mining can take place along with restoration.
- iv) Mining should not be undertaken in ecologically fragile or biologically rich areas. Mining in forest areas should be accompanied by time-bound reclamation.
- v) Special care should be taken to protect the interests of host and tribal populations.
- vi) Mining sectoral value addition through beneficiation, calibration, blending, sizing, concentration, pelletisation, purification and customization should be encouraged.

(b): The mineral wise production and value of minerals covered under Mineral Conservation and Development Rules (MCDR) during the last three years and current year is at Annexure.

(c): During 2013-14, the estimated value of MCDR mineral production is Rs. 44333 crores (Provisional) against the total value of production of all sectors at Rs. 10472807 crores which amounts to contribution of 0.42 % to the GDP at factor cost (at current prices).

(d): Initiatives, inter alia, taken or being taken by the Government to augment production of minerals in the country are given below:

- i) 100% FDI is allowed in exploration, mining, mineral processing and metallurgy under the automatic route for all non-fuel and non-atomic minerals.
- ii) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been strengthened with manpower, skill development and state of the art equipments. GSI was restructured in October 2011 by creating 1353 technical posts. More than 400 geoscientists have been inducted in GSI since then. A state of the art Oceanographic Research Vessel (ORV) and a Heliborne Geophysical Survey System (HGSS) have been commissioned to enhance exploration capabilities of the GSI.

iii) GSI is carrying out scientific investigation for mineral resource assessment through modern and sophisticated exploration techniques including geomorphological and lineament mapping through study of satellite imageries, aero and ground geophysical studies and geochemical mapping. Integrated surveys for targeting concealed and deep-seated mineral deposits have also been taken up to improve the regional exploration for assessment of natural resources by infusion of latest state of art technology. Action have been initiated to augment mineral resources by exploration of concealed deposits, conservation of existing resources by zero waste mining and developing improved beneficiation process.

iv) A Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee (CEC) is in place since 2005 with representatives from concerned Central Ministries/ Departments and State Governments to facilitate decision relating to mineral development and regulation.