

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:211

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2014

REVIEW OF NATIONAL MINERAL POLICY

Giluwa Shri Laxman;Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

**Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:**

- (a) the salient features of the National Mineral Policy, 2008;
- (b) whether several States have expressed their reservations over the new National Mineral Policy;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the objections raised by them along with the steps taken by the Government to address the said objections;
- (d) whether the Government has set up a high level Committee to review the National Mineral Policy and the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the said Bill is likely to be enacted?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND STEEL (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

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

Statement referred in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question Number 211 for reply on 08.12.2014 regarding Review of National Mineral Policy asked by Shri Laxman Giluwa and Shri Ramsinh Rathwa

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

- i) Minerals being a valuable resource, extraction have to be optimized through scientific methods, beneficiation and economic utilization. Zero waste mining will be the goal.
- ii) The regulatory environment will be made more conducive to investment. Transparency in allocations of concession will be assured with security of tenure to a concessionaire.
- iii) A framework of sustainable development will be designed to ensure that mining can take place along with restoration.
- iv) Mining shall not be undertaken in ecologically fragile or biologically rich areas. Mining in forest areas will be accompanied by time-bound reclamation.
- v) Special care will be taken to protect the interest of host and indigenous (tribal) populations on the basis of international best practice. Project affected persons will be protected through comprehensive relief and rehabilitation packages in line with the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement(R&R) Policy.
- vi) Mining sectoral value addition through beneficiation, calibration, blending, sizing, concentration, pelletisation, purification and customization will be encouraged.
- vii) State agencies involved in mineral sector development and regulation will be encouraged to modernize in the areas of prospecting as well as regulation.
- viii) To exploit the country's geological potential it will be ensured that Regional and Detailed Explorations are carried out systematically in the entire geologically conducive mineral bearing area of the country using state- of-the-art techniques.
- ix) To promote the use of state of the art exploration techniques, scientific mining and optimal use of minerals, special impetus will be given to research and development and to the establishment of appropriate educational and training facilities for human resource development to meet the manpower requirements of the mineral industry.
- x) The revenues from minerals will be rationalised to ensure that the mineral bearing states get a fair share of the value of the minerals extracted from their grounds.

(b) to (e): The Government had constituted a High Level Committee on 14.09.2005 under the chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda,

Member Planning Commission to review the National Mineral Policy and to suggest changes in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, in order to give a fillip to the investment in the mining sector. The Committee considered submissions by Government of Rajasthan, Government of Bihar, Government of Himachal Pradesh, Government of Uttarakhand, Government of Madhya Pradesh, Government of Chhattisgarh, Government of Odisha and Government of Uttar Pradesh. The submissions of State Governments were on the issues relating to inter alia concerns on the need to allow the State Government to give preference to value addition within the State, policy on seamless transition, security of tenure, need to strengthen Public Sector Undertakings and allow preferential treatment in grant of mineral concessions to PUSs, apart from requesting for levy of royalty on ad valorem basis.

These issues alongwith the recommendations of the High Level Committee were discussed in the meeting of the Mineral Advisory Council held on 6.11.2006, wherein the Chief Ministers of all the States were invited. The draft National Mineral Policy was referred to a Group of Ministers headed by Shri Shivraj V Patil. The Chairman of Group of Ministers held consultations with the Chief Ministers of State Government of Odisha, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Chhattisgarh on 6.8.2007. All the views and concerns expressed in the various meetings mentioned above were considered and appropriately addressed by the Government before finalisation of NMP, 2008. The Group of Ministers recommended the NMP, 2008 for consideration of the Government. The NMP, 2008 was approved by the Government on 13.3.2008.

In terms of NMP, 2008, Ministry of Mines introduced a Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill 2011 in the Lok Sabha on 12.12.2011 which lapsed with the dissolution of the XV Lok Sabha. The Ministry of Mines has now prepared a Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (Amendment) Bill 2014. The Bill has been uploaded on the website of the Ministry for inviting comments from the Public, State Governments and Stakeholders as part of the pre-legislative consultation process. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate the time for enacting the Bill.