

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1323
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2014
EXPLORATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES .
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Patel Smt. Jayshreeben

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has entered into any agreement with foreign countries / multinational companies for cooperation in the mineral sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the fund invested, country/company-wise;
- (c) whether such companies are making adequate progress in expediting exploration of mineral resources in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, company-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The Ministry of Mines, Government of India has signed MoUs in the field of Mineral Resources and Geology with Governments of Afghanistan, Canada, Chile, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Peru, Uzbekistan and Colombia as well as Provinces of Canada (Ontario, British Columbia, Quebec, Saskatchewan). The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with De Beers India Private Limited (DIPL) on the Research Project. The countries / companies take investment decisions based on their market perceptions /forces.

(c) & (d) The progress of such companies is governed by market mechanism.