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Title: Need to amend the clause of Mines & Mineral Development and Regulation Act, 2015 for auctioning of coal and limestone in Meghalaya.

SHRI VINCENT H. PALA (SHILLONG): The people of Meghalaya are suffering due to ban in mining of coal and limestone. The Minister of Coal is willing to help the people by lifting the ban provided these are scientifically mined and are as per laws. The problem is now the MMDR Act 2015 Amendment Clause 9B(4) which deals with Sixth Schedule Areas and compulsory auctioning of coal and limestone. Therefore, as the Minister of Coal agreed to help the tribal people, I urge upon the Government that the MMDR Act 2015 be amended so that auctioning of coal and limestone should be exempted in Meghalaya. An Amendment for this purpose should be brought to the Parliament as soon as possible in the coming session.