GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1064
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH JULY, 2015

TRANSPARENCY IN MINING WORK

†1064. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:
(a) whether mining is being undertaken in only one per cent of the total mining regions currently in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether several policy measures have been taken by Government in the direction of mining work extension and bringing dynamism and transparency therein; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): State Governments, as the owner of minerals, grant mineral concessions for exploration and mining in terms of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957 and rules framed there under. Details of mining regions as also the area granted under mining leases are not maintained centrally.

(c) and (d): Yes Sir. The Government has recently amended the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 through the MMDR Amendment Act 2015, which inter-alia provides for (i) grant of mineral concessions through auction by competitive bidding; (ii) extension of validity of lease period of existing leases; (iii) establishment of District Mineral Foundation for the benefit of persons and areas affected by mining operations; (iv) establishment of National Mineral Exploration Trust for the purposes of regional and detailed exploration; (v) simplification and removal of delays in the method of grant of mineral concessions; and (vi) stronger provisions for checking illegal mining.

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