*121. DR. CHANDAN MITRA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a provision for revision of royalty rates of major minerals after an interval of every three years in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957;
(b) if so, the reasons for not revising the royalty rates of other major minerals for years except coal; and
(c) the steps taken by Government to revise the royalty rates of all minerals at the earliest?

ANSWER

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

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.121 FOR REPLY ON 16.7.2014 REGARDING REVISION OF ROYALTY RATES OF MAJOR MINERALS ASKED BY DR. CHANDAN MITRA:

(a) and (b): Proviso to Section 9(3) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 stipulates that the Central Government shall not enhance the rates of royalty more than once during any period of three years.

The last revision of the rates of royalty was effected on 13.8.2009. The MMDR Act, 1957, does not mandate the Central Government to revise the rates of royalty every three years, so that new rates come into force every three years.

(c): The Central Government in the Ministry of Mines has constituted Study Groups from time to time to study the demands made for revising the rates of royalty on minerals (other than minor minerals, Coal, Lignite and Sand for stowing) and dead rent and to make recommendations. The most recent Study Group Report was received by the Government on 28.6.2013.

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