GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2774
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH DECEMBER, 2014

MINING ACTIVITY AREAS DECLARED FOREST RESERVES IN JHARKHAND

2774. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some areas in the country, particularly some districts of Jharkhand, have been included in the forest reserves whereas mining activities were being carried out in these areas earlier;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether discontinuation of production in these mines due to the inclusion in forest reserves has led to unemployment and development works have come to standstill in these areas;
(d) if so, whether the Ministry of Mines has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change; and
(e) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): Mining activities in the Reserved Forests and other forests areas in the country, including in the State of Jharkhand, are being carried out as per the provisions contained in the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The use of forest land (Protected / Reserved forests) for non-forestry purposes including mining requires prior approval of the Central Government under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The detail in the matter is not maintained centrally in the Ministry of Mines.

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