GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1537
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11TH MARCH, 2015

AUCTION FOR FRESH LEASE OF IRON ORE DEPOSITS

1537. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced that all iron ore deposits would be auctioned for fresh lease;
(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
(c) whether as per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Ordinance, 2014 special grace period of five years to lease mines which are more than 50 years old has been extended and 15 years in case of some captive mines; and
(d) if so, the State-wise and mine-wise details thereof and the reasons for the same?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Amendment Ordinance, 2015 was promulgated on 12.1.2015 to amend the MMDR Act, 1957. The Ordinance provides that mineral concessions, including for iron ore, will be granted through auction. State Governments grant mineral concessions under the provisions of the MMDR Act, 1957.

(c): The transition provisions in the Ordinance provides that period of mining leases granted before promulgation of the Ordinance will be deemed to be extended till the following period, whichever is later:

(i) 31st March, 2030 in case mineral is used for captive purpose, or 31st March, 2020 in case mineral is used for other than captive purpose;
(ii) completion of renewal period;
(iii) fifty years from date of grant of mining lease.

(d): The transition provisions for extension of period of mining leases have been provided to ensure regular supply of raw material to the industry. The data on such mining leases is not maintained centrally.