1063. SHRI AVINASH PANDE:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of districts in the country where mining of minerals is carried out; and

(b) the number of such districts where District Mineral Foundations have been set up and operationalized under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended in 2015, along with the State-wise breakup thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): As per data maintained by Indian Bureau of Mines (an attached office of the Ministry of Mines), there are 281 districts where mining leases have been granted by State Governments for mining of major minerals.

(b): The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 has been amended through the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 which came into effect from 12th January, 2015. As per the newly inserted section 9B, State Governments are empowered to frame rules for the composition and functions of the District Mineral Foundation (DMF). All State Governments have been accordingly advised to frame the necessary rules.

The DMFs will become operational once the state governments frame rules in this regard and notify the setting-up of the DMFs in the state. So far, no DMFs are operational in the country.

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