

of the affected persons, rather than externally imposed. A careful assessment of the economic, environmental and social impact on the affected persons will be made. A mechanism will be evolved which would actually improve the living standards of the affected population and ensure for them a sustainable income above the poverty line. For this purpose, all the provisions of the National Rehabilitation and Resettlement Policy or any revised Policy or Statute that may come into operation, will be followed.*

(c) and (d) The National Mineral Policy 2008 provides that the States shall be adjusted to overcome the problem of illegal mining through operational and financial package with the Indian Bureau of Mines. In order to ensure systematic and scientific mining, Indian Bureau of Mines and the State Directorates shall be suitably strengthened through capacity building measures. Regulation of conditionalities for mining of small deposits shall be tightened so as to control and prevent the growth of illegal mining.

The draft legislation pursuant to the Policy is based on the aforementioned guidelines.

Illegal mining in Orissa

4089. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to illegal mining, several mining operations and mining transport by Road and Railways has been stopped in Barbil area of Keonjhar district in Orissa and as a result of which 25,000 workers are sitting idle; and

(b) whether it is a fact that even Orissa Minerals Development Company (OMDC) mining operation have also been stopped even if it is a public sector mine?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUÉ): (a) and (b) As per available information, 7746 numbers of employees are affected in 164 mines suspended in the State of Orissa in various districts of the State. Mining operations has also been stopped in the Orissa Minerals Development Company (OMDC).

Minority communities in Jammu and Kashmir

4090. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of communities which are treated as minority communities in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) how much benefit has been given to the Sikh minority community in the State from the National Minority Financial Development Corporation's Scholarship for minority students and other Central schemes;

(c) how many Sikhs to the State have been given employment in Central Departments or PSUs;

(d) whether the State Government has any scheme for the help of Sikhs in the Kashmir Valley; and

(e) how many Sikhs have been taken in Para Military Forces recruited for the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Government of India treats Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis as minority communities in the entire country.

(b) The National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) does not extend scholarships to the students. However, the NMDFC had extended concessional credit to the tune of Rs. 108.55 lakh to 31 persons belonging to Sikh community till 31/03/2009 in the State of Jammu & Kashmir. Under the schemes of this Ministry, scholarships were released to the persons belonging to the Sikh community in the year 2009-10 in the State as per details given below:

Name of Scholarship Scheme	Number of Scholarship released
Pre-Matric	506
Post-Matric	317
Merit-cum-Means based scholarship	184

(c) The information on recruitment is maintained for minorities as a whole and not for individual minority groups.

(d) Information will be collected from the Government of Jammu & Kashmir and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Land and office space purchased by NMDFC

4091. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state: