

Upgradation of legal education

1150. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the National Knowledge Commission has made many valuable recommendations to update and enhance the standard of legal education in law colleges and University Law Departments;

(b) if so, whether Government has accepted any of those recommendations; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) This Ministry has given in principle approval to the - (i) Regulatory Reforms: a new Standing Committee for legal education; (ii) Curriculum Development; (iii) Developing Research Tradition in law schools and universities; and (iv) Center for Advanced Legal Studies and Research (CALSAR).

(c) Does not arise.

Illegal mining

1151. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that illegal mining of mineral resources have been going on in various places endangering life and property in appurtenant areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has assessed the annual loss to the exchequer due to illegal mining;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the steps being taken to stop illegal mining?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (e) Instances of illegal mining of minerals have come to the notice of the Government in various parts of the country. As per available information details of illegal mining of minerals detected by the State Governments in the last three years upto December, 2009 is given in the Statement (*See below*). Since the State Governments collect royalty for minerals, the data on royalty is not centrally maintained. The Central Government had amended the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, to empower the State Governments to take action against illegal mining by giving them powers to enter and inspect any mine, penalize transportation and storage of illegal mined minerals, confiscate illegally mined minerals, tools, equipment and vehicles, and frame separate Rules under the Mines and Minerals