

(d) Since the year 2009, the State Governments were advised to:—

- Set up State Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee (SCEC) to coordinate efforts to control illegal mining by including representatives of Railways and Port authorities (10 State Governments have set up such Committees),
- Frame State Mineral Policy on the basis of model Mineral Policy drafted by the Ministry of Mines based on National Mineral Policy, 2008 and circulated in September 2009, and to adopt transparent concession grant policies to reduce scope for illegal mining (3 States have reported compliance).
- to adopt an Action Plan with specific measures to detect and control illegal mining including:—
 - Remote sensing
 - Control on traffic
 - Market intelligence
 - Registration of end-users
 - Setting up of special cells etc.

(So far 7 States have reported that they have prepared Action Plan and are taking action as per the Plan)

- In the meeting dated 18.6.2010, States were advised to nominate a nodal officer who will liaise with Railways, Port and Customs authorities to collect information on illegal mining on continual basis.

Abolition of prior approval for mineral concessions

724. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Governments are the owner of the minerals in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the provision of prior approval of the Central Government for granting mining rights of minerals like iron ore, manganese, bauxite, etc. is proposed to be abolished;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the requests in this regard have been received from some State Governments; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) State Governments are the owners of on-shore minerals.

(b) to (d) The Government has prepared a new draft Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 2010 which *inter alia* proposes to enable State Governments to grant

mineral concessions for all major minerals occurring on-shore, except coal minerals, atomic minerals and beach sand minerals, for which prior approval of Central Government would be necessary.

(e) No, Sir. However, the State Governments have concurred with this proposal in consultations held with them.

(f) Does not arise.

Sharing of mining profits with displaced people

725. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to share mining profit with affected people and as such, companies with captive mines may have to share profits and therefore Government is determined to implement a policy intended to give those displaced due to mining a share in the profits of miners despite a less than enthusiastic response from the industry;

(b) whether legislation in this regard would help to make it mandatory to issue company's share to each member of all the families displaced by project as well as 26 per cent share of profit as compensation; and

(c) if so, by when a final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The Government has prepared a new draft Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 2010 which *inter alia* proposes to make it mandatory for all mining lease holders to share their profits with persons affected by mining related operations. The proposal is still under consideration of Government.

Losses to mining companies due to classification of "no go" areas

726. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mining companies are incurring losses due to marking of some areas as "no go" areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government is taking to safeguard interest of these companies?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) As per available information, the Government has taken up an exercise to superimpose maps of coal bearing areas on maps of forest cover in case of nine coalfields with a view to identify prima-facie 'Go' and 'No-Go' areas for coal mining. The exercise is in an advanced stage and estimation of impact on loss would be premature.

Illegal sand mining in Maharashtra

727. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state: