institution for fundamental as well as applied geoscience. For this purpose, the Committee has recommended a Charter for GSI which inter alia requires GSI to explore (through ground, airborne, satellite and marine surveys) and scientifically assess mineral, energy and water resources for the country and facilitate their optimal exploration. The recommendations of the Committee have been accepted.

Revival of mining operations

1334. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether mining activities in some of the mines have been banned/ suspended/ abandoned;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the State Governments including Haryana have urged for revival of such mines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) As per available information, the following are the mining activities banned/suspended/abandoned:

(i) In Rajasthan, Supreme Court vide order dated 19.2.2010, restrained 157 mines in Aravalli hills of Rajasthan from mining till further orders. The matter is sub-judice.

(ii) In Haryana all mining operations have been closed since 1.3.2010 except sand mining in Sonepat and Panipat.

(iii) In Orissa, a total of 264 mines have been suspended.

(iv) In Andhra Pradesh 6 mines were suspended. The suspension orders for 6 mines, was quashed by the High Court of Andhra Pradesh. However, Supreme Court of India ordered survey of the area, and till then mining operations are suspended.

(v) Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) has suspended 120 mines in the country for violations.

(vi) IBM identified 297 abandoned mines in the country in the year 2003, which were left un-reclaimed before April 2003.

(c) and (d) State Government of Haryana is pursuing the matter with Supreme Court of India for allowing mining of construction material over an area of 600 hectares in Faridabad and 1500

hectares in the districts of Gurgaon including Mewat. IBM shortlisted 106 mines for reclamation, but 24 of the shortlisted mines have become operational again due to recovery in the price of minerals, regrant of fresh mining lease and availability of forest clearance.

Cases of illegal mining

1335. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been reports about illegal mining and if so, the number of cases registered;

(b) how many accused persons were found guilty and punished out of the total cases registered; and

(c) whether there has been a connection established between mining lobby and organised crime syndicates in the prosecution?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) to (c) The Government has received reports of illegal mining in the country. As per available information details of total number of cases of illegal mining detected by the State Governments and action taken so far is given in the Statement (*See* below). In some particular instances of illegal mining in Jharkhand, evidence of organized criminal nexus has been established. The State Government has been asked to take stringent action in the matter.

Statement

State-wise details of cases of illegal mining of minerals (for non-fuel and non-atomic minerals) reported by State Governments

S.No.	State	Nos. of cases detected					Action Taken so far by States from January 2006 till June 2010			
		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010 (upto June 2010)	Vehicle Seized	FIRs Lodged	Court Cases filed	Fine realized (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andhra Pradesh	5385	9216	13478	11591	7980	844	18	-	5636.21