RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 5th September, 2011/14th Bhadra, 1933 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Number 441 *...(Interruptions)...*

National Mineral Policy

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

(a) whether a National Mineral Policy is being formulated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether unorganised mines are being brought under the proposed Policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the criteria for seiection of such unorganised mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Government had approved a National Mineral Policy on 13.8.2008, which was tabled in the Lok Sabha on 16.4.2008 and in the Rajya Sabha on the 20.3.2008. The new National Mineral Policy has enunciated policy measures like assured right to next stage mineral concession, transferability of mineral concessions and transparency in allotment of concessions, in order to reduce delays which are seen as impediments to investment and technology flow in the mining sector in India. The Mining Policy also seeks to develop a sustainable framework for optimum utilization of the country's natural mineral resources for the industrial growth in the country and at the same time improving the life of people living in the mining areas, which are generally located in the backward and tribal regions of the country. There is no further proposal for new formulation of a National Mineral Policy.

(c) and (d) There is no separate classification of mines as 'unorganized' in National Mineral Policy, 2008, or the mining legislation. The National Mineral Policy, 2008, enunciates a policy for mining of small deposits. The criteria for such categorization is based on the small and isolated nature of the deposits of mineral, requiring modest capital expenditure and short lead time for mining. As per the National Mineral Policy, 2008, in order to promote small scale mining of small deposits in a scientific and efficient manner, safeguarding vital environmental and ecological imperatives, it is laid down that a cluster approach shall be adopted by granting deposits together as a single lease within a geographically defined boundary, and efforts would be made to grant mineral concessions to consortia of small seale miners to enable them to reap economies of scale. The policy further lays down that in grant of mineral concessions for small deposits in Scheduled areas, preference shall be given to Scheduled Tribes, singly or as cooperatives. All the mining operations will be subject to mining laws, safeguarding environment and ecological imperatives. Legislation to give effect to the policy on small deposits in the National Mineral Policy, 2008, is under consideration of the Government.

SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Sir, Question No. 441 ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go back. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Sir, a statement is laid on the Table of the House ... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is the Question Hour...*(Interruptions)*...This is the Question Hour...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री शिवानन्द तिवारी : बिहार के गवर्नर को वापस बुलाने के बारे में ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is the Question Hour...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, federalism has to be maintained...*(Interruptions)*... उसे विध्वंस नहीं होने देंगे...(व्यवधान)... आप लोग क्या कर रहे हैं?...(व्यवधान)... आपका इरादा क्या है...(व्यवधान)...

शिवानन्द तिवारी : सर, हमने भी बिहार के गवर्नर को वापस बुलाने के लिए कहा है ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Number 441...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PYARI MOHAN MOHAPATRA: Federal structure of the country has to be maintained...*(Interruptions)*...This is the Council of States ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री धीरज प्रसाद साहू : महोदय, आपने मुझे पूछने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपका धन्यवाद करता हूं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आमतौर पर यह देखा गया है कि जो बड़ी-बड़ी लीज़ धारक कम्पनियां हैं, वे मौजूदा खनिज नीति का उल्लंघन करती हैं और अपने निजी ठेकेदारों के माध्यम से वे लीज़ एरिया के बाहर फॉरेस्ट एरिया में अवैध खनन का काम कर रही हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसके कारण जंगलों को उजाड़ने का काम किया जा रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पर्यावरण पर उसका बुरा असर पड़ रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... साथ ही सरकार को अरबों रुपए का चूना लगाया जा रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्या सरकार इसे रोकने के लिए कोई कदम उठा रही है? यदि हां तो ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: This is not something in which States' powers have to be abrogated...*(Interruptions)*...They wanted to have a centralized structure... *(Interruptions)*...

शिवानन्द तिवारी : बिहार के गवर्नर को वापस बुलाने के बारे में क्या फैसला किया गया है? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, we want Question Hour ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: This Government should not continue in power even for a single day...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Sir, we want 178...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we want 178...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Sir, let that order be recalled.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 12 o' clock, since it is not the wish of the Members to have the Question Hour conducted.

The House then adjourned at four minutes
past eleven of the clock.

The House re-assembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN in the Chair.