

(b) the number of jobs earmarked for SC/ST category out of the total strength as per Government's reservation policy is as under:—

Group	Total sanctioned strength	Number of posts earmarked for SC/ST category	
		SC	ST
A	16 (To which reservation apply)	02	01
B	114	17	8
C	95	14	7

(c) The present filled position in Group 'A', 'B' and 'C' posts is 12, 85 and 73 respectively. Out of 12 Group 'A' posts where reservation policy applies, there is 1 (one) SC category officer. Out of 85 Group 'B' posts filled, 12 officials belong to SC category and 4 belong to ST category. Out of 73 Group 'C' posts filled 11 officials belong to SC category and 01 (one) belong to ST category. The majority of the posts in Groups 'A', 'B' and 'C' are borne on the centralised cadres *i.e.* Central Secretariat Service (CSS), Central Secretariat Clerical Service (CSCS) and Central Secretariat Stenographers Service (CSSS) and filled by DoPT and vacancies in these grades are intimated to DoPT for nomination of candidates.

Competitive bidding for mining licences

2883. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is going to allow mining licences to be awarded through competitive bidding;

(b) whether Government is going to make an exception for large area prospecting licences and may incentivise it as special instruments for locating deep seated and concealed deposits of minerals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) The Government had amended the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, *vide* Gazette (Extraordinary) Notification No. 43 dated 9th September, 2010 to introduce provisions in the said Act for awarding mining licences for coal minerals through a process of competitive bidding. *Vide* this amendment, Section 11A has been inserted in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. In addition, the National Mineral Policy, 2008, advocates, with respect to non-coal non-fuel minerals, that transparency in allocation of

concessions will be ensured. In pursuant of this policy, the proposed legislative changes in the form of MMDR Bill is still under the consideration of the Government.

Limestone mining proposal by GMDC

2884. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL :

SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has recommended a proposal for inclusion of limestone minerals and grant of relaxation under provisions of section 6(1)(B) of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC) for limestone mineral from the existing lignite mining lease at village Tadkeshwar, Distt. Surat; and

(b) if so, by when the permission is likely to be granted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Approval of the Central Government for the said proposal has been conveyed on 10.8.2011.

Displacement from small mine due to new Mining Bill

2885. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people who would have to vacate their traditional small mines and quarries after passage of the proposed Mines Bill of 2011;

(b) whether Government has done a State-wise survey on the displacement caused by the proposed legislation;

(c) whether any scheme has been proposed by Government to give one time settlement to the people whose rights have been “abated”; and

(d) the formula adopted to give succour to such small mine-owners in various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) The Government is considering a draft legislation in terms of the National Mineral Policy, 2008, to streamline the procedure for grant of mineral concessions, increase transparency reduce discretionary powers, ensure sustainable and scientific mining in the country. The draft legislation is yet to be introduced in Parliament.