

Excavation of mining areas

†4119. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced/proposes to announce any new policy for the excavation of mining areas in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government has declared the said areas of the country as tribal scheme area;

(c) if so, whether any scheme has been proposed to be formulated with a view to provide maximum compensation to the affected families and to make them partners in the mining companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) The Central Government has enunciated National Mineral Policy, 2008, which seeks to develop a sustainable framework for optimum utilisation 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. The Mineral Policy also enunciates that special care will be taken to protect the interest of host and indigenous (tribal) populations through developing models of stakeholder interest based on international best practice. Further the Government has approved a draft MMDR Bill, 2011 which has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 12th December, 2011 and referred to Standing Committee on Coal and Steel on 5th January, 2012, The draft Bill provides that:

- (i) In all exploration activities suitable compensation shall be payable to the person or family holding occupation or usufruct or traditional rights on the area of exploration.
- (ii) All mining Lease holders to pay annually into District Mineral Foundation a sum equivalent to royalty in case of major minerals (other than coal) and a sum equivalent to 26% of profit in case of coal minerals and in case of minor minerals a sum prescribed by the State Government will be payable to District Mineral Foundation.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (iii) Mining Companies allot at-least one share at par to each person of the family affected by mining so as to give a sense of ownership in the enterprise.
- (iv) Mining Companies provide employment or other compensation as stipulated under the R & R policy.
- (v) After mining is complete, mining companies need to pay for damages, if any, to affected persons as part of the mine closure and restoration process.

False declaration in transportation of iron ore

4120. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA:

DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has registered two cases against unknown officials of Ministry of Railways and Central Excise of Haldia Commissionerate and two private companies for allegedly causing a loss of over Rs. 1,000 crore to Government exchequer by making false declarations in transportation of iron ore and its end use;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether CBI has identified the officials involved in the fraud and arrested them and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures taken to check recurrence of such frauds in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. CBI has registered 02 cases in respect of false declaration in transportation of iron ore and its end use *viz* Case No. RC0102012A0002-Kolkata, dated 10.01.2012 and case No. RC0102011A0035-Kolkata, dated 30.12.2011. The details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) During investigation of both the above mentioned cases the role of the officials of Railways, Central Excise and other Public Servants are being looked into. Based on the recovery of cash and investments, a separate case for possession of Disproportionate assets *vide* Case No. RC0102012A0006 has been registered against an official of Railways. No one has been arrested in these cases till date.