

Development package for MSMEs

541. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government thinks it appropriate to make a separate development package for micro, small and medium enterprises, in view of their contribution to GDP, employment and foreign exchange;

(b) if so, what steps Government has taken in that direction; and

(c) if not, how Government justifies its stand towards the sector?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government has announced a 'Package for Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises' in February, 2007 with the objective to provide support in areas of credit, technology upgradation, marketing, infrastructure, etc. The Ministry of MSME is implementing various schemes/programmes relating to credit, infrastructure development, technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial/skill development, etc.

(c) Does not arise.

Fast track channel to clear proposal of giant mining companies

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

(a) whether Government has set up a fast track channel to clear all iron ore proposals allocated to giant mining companies who were given permissions in Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Andhra Pradesh from 2010 up to 2012;

(b) how this fast track system operates to give approvals under the existing provisions of the mining laws;

(c) who have been the beneficiaries of such speedy approvals for iron ore mines in Chhattisgarh;

(d) whether Government would cancel all such approvals given during the last three years in interest of transparency; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Pending mining lease applications

543. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for reconnaissance permits, prospecting licenses and mining leases pending with the State Government;