

**Mineral rent resource tax**

4898. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received a proposal from Odisha suggesting levy of Mineral Rent Resource Tax on super normal profits earned by the lessees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the stage of consideration of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Chief Minister of Government of Odisha has sought imposition of Mineral Resource Tax on supernormal profits made by iron ore mining companies. The request was examined and Government of Odisha has been advised that it is necessary to closely study the profits earned by various types of miners in iron ore mining, including the small and medium scale miners and captive miners in the light of the various incidences of taxes and levies on the mining sector particularly when royalty is levied on ad-valorem basis at pit-mouth value of mineral and not on the FOB value. Further, it was also suggested that in the new Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2011 the District Mineral Foundation is proposed wherein every miner would be required to pay an equivalent amount of royalty and also there are provisions for State Mineral Funds which can serve as a substitute to the suggested Mineral Resource Tax. It is further stated that the State Government of Odisha is a part of the Study Group for review of royalty rates and dead rent constituted in the Ministry, and therefore has sufficient opportunity to effectively contribute in developing a mechanism to work-out a rational rate of royalty on iron ore, which would adequately ensure fair compensation to the State Government.

**Rehabilitation Plan for Mines**

4899. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to implement reclamation and rehabilitation plans for miners;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to implement the above under the supervision of the Central Empowered Committee; 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 Empowered Committee, set up by the Supreme Court of India, in the Final Report on Mining in Karnataka had categorised all iron ore mines in Karnataka into three categories 'A', 'B' and 'C' on the basis of extent of violation, and had recommended that mining in iron ore mines in Karnataka can be allowed for Category 'A' and 'B' mines. The Supreme Court, while agreeing to the recommendations of Central Empowered Committee, has directed that mining may be allowed for Category 'A' and 'B' mines on the condition, *inter-alia*, that a Reclamation and Rehabilitation Plan for these mines is prepared, implemented and monitored under the supervision of the Central Empowered Committee. As per available information, the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) has been directed to prepare Reclamation and Rehabilitation Plan for Category 'A' mines having a lease area 50 hectare and above within two months, after which Reclamation and Rehabilitation Plan for category 'B' mines with lease area of more than 50 hectares would be prepared and finally Reclamation and Rehabilitation Plan for remaining Category 'A' and 'B' mines would be then prepared. The lessee will then submit approved Reclamation and Rehabilitation Plan along with Mining Plan/Mining Scheme to the Indian Bureau of Mines for approval of the Mining Plan/Mining Scheme.

#### **Salaries of Imams**

†4900. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has instructed the Central Government to increase the salaries of Imams;
- (b) if so, whether their salaries have been increased; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its Judgment dated 13th May, 1993, in Writ Petition (C) No. 715 of 1990 had directed the Union of India and Central Wakf Board (Council) to prepare a scheme in respect of different types of mosques for payment of remuneration/emoluments to the Imams.

(b) The Central Government, in consultation with the Central Wakf Council and the representatives of the State Governments/UT Administrations formulated the

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi