Illegal mining

1347. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Ministry that the illegal mining of Birathes to the extent of 30 crore tonnes to the tune of Rs.3 lakh crore in Garla Mandalam, Sheripuram, Pocharam, Khammam (Urban) mandals in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what action the Ministry has taken on illegal mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The Ministry of Mines is not in receipt of any complaint or reference pertaining to the illegal mining of Byrates in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

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

STF for illegal mining

1348. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:
SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has constituted a Special Task Force (STF) for enquiry of illegal mining in endemic areas:

(b) if so, what is the fact finding report of this STF;

(c) what action has been taken by the Ministry on this report as on date;

(d) in how many States, this STF is probing cases of illegal mining; and

(e) whether the Central Government is serious to stop illegal mining and to provide for severe punishment to culprits of such illegal mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) The Central Government through the Indian Bureau Mines (IBM) had constituted Special Task Forces for inspection of mines in endemic areas, which has conducted inspections in a total of 454 mines in the States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Jharkhand and Gujarat and suspended 155 mines under rule 13(2) of Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 (MCDR) due to serious violations , and has further recommended to the State Governments for termination of 8 leases.

The Central Government has also set up Shri Justice M.B. Shah Inquiry Commission for illegal mining of iron ore and manganese vide gazette notification dated 22.11.2010. The Commission submitted its First Interim Report to the Ministry of Mines, which has been laid before the Lok Sabha on 20.12.2011 alongwith the Memorandum of the Action Taken. The Commission has so far visited States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Goa and Odisha. The Commission has recently submitted its first report on its findings in the State of Goa.

(e) Apart from the above, the Central Government has also taken the following steps to curb illegal mining:

(i) State Governments were asked to frame rules to control illegal mining as per Section 23C of MMDR Act (so far 18 States have framed Rules).

(ii) State Governments were requested to set up Task Forces at State and District level to control illegal mining since the year 2005 (so far 21 States have reported to have set up Task Forces).

(iii) State Governments were advised to set up State Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee (SCEC) to coordinate efforts to control illegal mining by including representatives of Railways, Customs and Port authorities (13 State Governments have set up such Committees).

(iv) All State Governments advised to adopt an Action Plan with specific measures to detect and control illegal mining including, use of remote sensing, control on traffic, gather market intelligence, registration of end-users and setting up of special cells etc.

(v) Ministry of Mines has so far held five meetings with the State Governments to specifically review the action taken by the State Governments on illegal mining on 3.8.2009, 27.11.2009, 22.2.2010, 16.4.2010 and 21.9.2010. This periodical review has been dovetailed in the meeting of Central Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee meetings.

(vi) A Central Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee set up under Secretary (Mines) on 4.3.2009 has held seven meetings on 24.7.2009, 22.12.2009, 18.6.2010, 22.12.2010, 3.5.2011, 20.9.2011 and 16.1.2012 to consider all mining related issues, including matters relating to coordination of activities to combat illegal mining.

(vii) Railways have instituted a mechanism to allow transportation of iron ore only against permits issued rake-wise and verified by State Government, apart from taking measures to fence and set up check post at the railway sidings.

(viii) Customs Department has issued instructions to all its field units to share information on ore export with State Governments.

(ix) Ministry of Shipping has issued a direction to all major Ports to streamline the verification procedures for movement of consignment by road and rail to Ports for exports.

(x) Government has notified amendment in Rule 45 of Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988, on 9.2.2011 making it mandatory for all miners, traders, stockiest, exporters and end-users to register with IBM

and report their transaction in minerals on monthly basis for a proper end-to-end accounting of minerals. As on 19.3.2012, out of 9390 mining leases in the country, 7896 mining leases have registered online with IBM, and suitable action has been initiated action defaulters. The IBM has suspended 1460 mines for non-compliance and initiated prosecution in 4 cases and recommended 21 cases to State Governments for termination. IBM has also requested the State Governments not to issue transit passes for movement of minerals to unregistered persons.

Loan facility to Delhi for minorities

1349. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of amount granted for the development of minorities by the Central Government to Delhi Government as a loan facility;

(b) the details of loan granted especially to Muslims for their development by Delhi Government; and

(c) how much amount has been unutilized by Delhi Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC), a Central public sector company under the administrative control of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, implements its loan schemes for the minority communities through the Delhi SC/ST/OBC/Minorities/Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (DSCSTFDC), the State Channelising Agency (SCA) nominated by the Delhi Government. NMDFC has released an amount of Rs.363.20 lakhs to DSCSTFDC for term loans to 782 beneficiaries in Delhi from the year 2002-03 till 9th March 2012.

(b) Of the term loans of Rs.255.00 lakhs disbursed by DSCSTFDC to 593 beneficiaries, term loans amounting to Rs.246.50 lakhs have been disbursed to 473 Muslims beneficiaries.

(c) Since 2002-03, SCA of Delhi has utilized an amount of Rs.225.00 lakhs. Further, an amount of Rs.5.89 lakh is under utilization. The balance unspent amount of Rs.102.31 lakh has been refunded by SCA of Delhi to NMDFC.

Wakf Boards with the Central Government

1350. SHRI MOHAMMED ADEEB: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Wakf Boards of Chandigarh, Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Dadra and Nagar Haveli are with the Central Government; and