

(a) whether the mining sector will be reoriented to serve as a vehicle for National Mineral Policy prioritizing economic efficiency and envisaging investment and technology friendly regulatory set-up;

(b) if so, how this objective is proposed to be achieved and the time-frame thereof; and

(c) whether, as the primary pockets of mineral wealth are in tribal-inhabited forests in the central, south, east and north-east regions rehabilitation of the tribals would be adequately taken care of so that tribals are not compelled to resort to agitations as was the case with Santhal Adivasis in Jharkhand where mining was taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Mines has finalized a strategy to achieve the objectives of the National Mineral Policy, 2008. The Ministry has identified six key priorities, eluding enhancing resource and reserve base through exploration and international acquisition; reducing permit delays; putting in place core enablers (infrastructure, human capital, technology); ensuring sustainable mining and sustainable development around mining; creating an information, education and communication strategy; and undertaking measures to ensure implementation of National Mineral Policy. The Ministry has commenced action as per the strategy with an objective to complete the tasks in the 12th Five year plan period.

(c) The National Mineral Policy, 2008 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 improve the life of people living in the mining areas. 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. Suitable legislation has been provided in the draft Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Bill 2011 approved by the Government and introduced in Lok Sabha on 12.12.2011.

#### **Membership of EITI**

2402. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is a member of Extractive Industries and Transparency Initiative (EITI) that aims at curbing illegal mining, promotes revenue transparency and improves the governance in extractive industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) No, Sir. However, mining legislation in the country is already in compliance to the objectives of Extractive Industries and Transparency Initiative (EITI) especially relating to curbing illegal mining, promoting revenue transparency and improving governance in extractive industries.

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

#### **Allotment of shares to mining PAPs**

2403. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the demands have been made by many concerned organizations, including the Ministry, for allotting shares to mining Projects Affected Persons (PAPs) in new coal and iron-ore mines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the miners are objecting to these demands;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of Government's measures in this regard so that PAPs get their share in mining projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) In accordance with the National Mineral Policy, 2008, which provides that special care will be taken to protect the interest of tribal populations by developing models of stakeholder interest in mining projects, and stakeholder consultations, the Government has introduced the draft Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill (MMDR Bill), 2011 in Lok Sabha on 12.12.2011 in which there is a provision for sharing of benefits with the local population and allocation of atleast one share at par to each person of the family affected by mining, so as to give a sense of ownership in the enterprise.

(c) to (e) Various Industry Associations have objected to the allocation of shares to persons affected from mining operations. These objections are before the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel which is examining the MMDR Bill, 2011.