

Illegal mining in Odisha

*329. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of mine owners in Odisha who are involved in illegal mining;
- (b) whether cases have been filed against them and against the officials involved in such illegal activities;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there is serious allegation of illegal mining resulting in two lakh crore loss to the State exchequer;
- (d) whether the State and the Central Government officers, who were in-charge at that time, are being given extension after their retirement; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The Indian Bureau of Mines has informed that according to the Government of Odisha, 1281 cases of illegal mining have been detected between the financial year 2009-10 upto June, 2012 in the State. The Government of Odisha has informed that 36 court cases have been filed and Rs. 4339.34 lakhs realized as fines from illegal mining. Details of mine owners involved in illegal mining are not furnished by the State Governments and are not centrally maintained. State Government has informed that it has initiated 11 vigilance cases against officials.

- (c) The State Government has not informed the Central Government about loss of Rs. 2 lakh crore to its exchequer.
- (d) No extension of tenure has been given by the Central Government to any officer of Indian Bureau of Mines in the State of Odisha.
- (e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Supply of piped drinking water in rural areas

*330. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has announced piped drinking water supply schemes in rural households of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;