Illegal mining

2272. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:
SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is going to constitute a Mining Authority and if so, by when the proposed Authority would resume its function;

(b) as on date, in how many States, Special Task Force is probing cases of illegal mining and the remedial actions taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether the Central Government is serious to stop illegal mining and give severe punishment to culprits of such illegal mining?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill 2011, which was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 12.12.2011 and since referred to the Standing Committee on Coal and Steel on 05.1.2012, has provisions for setting up of a National Mining Regulatory Authority (Clause 58) and State Mining Regulatory Authority (Clause 70).

(b) and (c) As per section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, the State Governments have been empowered to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals. The Central Government has requested the State Governments 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. Since the State Governments deal with cases of illegal mining, specific details are not centrally maintained in the Ministry. However, year-wise details of cases of illegal mining detected and action taken by State Governments till September 2012, as reported by the State Governments are given in Statement *(See* below). The Central Government in co-ordination with State Governments has also taken the following steps to curb and check illegal mining in the country:

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

(ii) 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)

(iii) State Governments were 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.

(iv) A Central Coordination-cum-Empowered Committee set up under Secretary (Mines), having representation of major mineral bearing states and concerned Central Government Ministries/Departments on 4.3.2009. The Committee is holding regular meetings to consider all mining related issues including matters relating to coordination of activities to combat illegal mining.

(v) 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.

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

(vii) 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.

(viii) 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, stockist, 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.

(ix) Indian Bureau Mines had constituted Special Task Forces for inspection of mines in endemic areas by taking the help of Satellite imageries.

(x) The Central Government has set up Justice M B. Shah Commission to inquire into large scale illegal mining of iron ore and manganese ore in the country. The extended tenure of the Commission is till 16th July, 2013.

Statement

(For all minerals excluding atomic and fuel minerals)

Sl. No.	State	Illegal Mining cases				Action taken from 2007-08 to Sept. 2012			
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13 (till Sept.)	FIR Lodged (Nos.)	Court Cases Filed (Nos.)	Vehicle Seized (No.)	Fine realized by State Govt. (Rs. Lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0.05000
2.	Andhra Pradesh	15530	13939	19913	10603	18	537	412	10721.94300
3.	Chhattisgarh	2606	2017	2946	1385	88	8346	3363	2054.68470
4.	Goa	12	13	1	0	0	0	294	3.33799
5.	Gujarat	4020	2184	3485	3726	264	5	8666	40122.47200
6.	Haryana	1437	3446	2022	2396	570	19	0	1162.12445
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1398	1213	1289	0	186	1189	0	97.11620
8.	Jharkhand	15	199	364	0	285	30	146	46.86070
9.	Karnataka	4692	6476	6691	3288	533	188	73863	5927.11600

10.	Kerala	1847	2028	3175	0	0	0	0	698.33956
11.	Madhya Pradesh	5782	4245	7147	2979	2742	21522	0	11793.02970
12.	Maharashtra	26283	34265	40642	15297	0	1	112695	14964.56300
13.	Mizoram	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0.00000
14.	Odisha	487	420	309	65	11	36	1903	4466.71000
15.	Punjab	131	754	314	0	67	0	61	382.52500
16.	Rajasthan	4690	1833	1201	2105	1825	75	261	2416.68440
17.	Tamilnadu	273	277	123	207	1830	561	42065	7996.92090
18.	Uttar Pradesh	-	4641	4708	3266	0	0	0	3191.24000
19.	West Bengal	113	239	269	175	1091	128	4094	0.0000
	GRAND TOTAL	69316	78189	94604	45493	9510	32637	247823	106045.71760

(Source: Indian Bureau of Mines, Government of India)