

Auction process of diamond mines

†1341. DR. SUBHASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has started the auction process of diamond mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount of revenue likely to be recovered by State and Central Governments from this auction; and
- (d) the places in the country where these blocks of diamond mines are located which are proposed to be auctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Recently, State Government of Madhya Pradesh has successfully auctioned a diamond block, Hatupur Block, Brijpur, District-Panna, for Prospecting-cum-Mining lease. By auction of this block, State Government of Madhya Pradesh would get estimated total revenue to the tune of ₹ 38.00 crore during the whole lease period. Details of the same are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) As per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amended Act, 2015 and the rules framed thereunder, State Governments are adequately empowered to identify/notify any mineral block in accordance with the prescribed law. At present, no diamond block has been notified by State Governments.

Statement*Details of the e-Auctioned block-Hatupur Block, Brijpur, District-Panna, Madhya Pradesh*

States	Name of Block	Mineral	Date of Auction (conducted)	Proffered Bidder	Estimated Total Revenue to Government for period of 50 years (in ₹)
Madhya Pradesh	Hatupur Block, Brijpur, District-Panna	Diamond	05.10.2016	M/s Bansal Construction Company	38 crore

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.