

Sanctioning new mines

†1999. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state: the details of number of new mines of iron-ores and other minerals sanctioned for Government and private sectors during last three years, the State-wise and the estimated number of direct and indirect employment likely to be created when these mines get operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): As per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 and the Rules framed there-under, the State Governments are devolved upon the responsibility to grant mineral concessions for the minerals located within their respective boundaries, in accordance with the prescribed law. This information is not centrally maintained by Ministry of Mines. However, as per the information provided by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), 27 mining leases of iron ore and 132 mining leases of other minerals were sanctioned during the last three years for Government and private sector. As per IBM, it is estimated that 11989 number of direct employment is likely to be created after these mines get operational.

Mining sector in India

2000. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of logistical inefficiencies in transportation of coal from its place of origin to destination;

(b) if so, Government's proposal to check the inefficiencies to prevent loss of valuable natural resources;

(c) whether Government is looking for alternatives of Railways, as it undertakes the majority of transportation activities; and

(d) if not, measures which Government has envisaged to fine-tune the operations of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) There has been no logistical inefficiencies at Coal India Limited (CIL) regarding transportation of coal to its various consumers.

However, it is stated that the responsibility of arranging transportation from the coal sidings/mine stock to the end use point lies with the consumer.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) In the meeting taken by Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) Power and NRE, Government of India on 25.01.2018, the use of captive mode of transport like Conveyor Belts, Merry Go Round (MGR) for movement of coal was stressed upon and it was decided that the Power Plants situated within 20 kms. from pithead shall construct elevated closed belt conveyors within 2 years. Further it was also decided that Power Plants located within 40 kms. from pithead shall construct MGR within 3 years and Power Plants located within 40 kms. and upto 100 kms. may also consider the option of MGR based on financial viability.

**Monitoring the release and expenditure of
Finance Commission Grants**

2001. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government monitors the release and expenditure of grants of Finance Commission to ensure that there is no delay in their release;

(b) if so, the details of delays, in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(c) whether Government ensures that grants are utilised in a proper and effective manner, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Finance Commission recommended Grants are released to States including to the State of Tamil Nadu after receiving recommendation from the line Ministries and upon fulfilment of conditions as stipulated in the Grant specific Guidelines. States are eligible to draw the next installment of their entitled share of the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) Grants for Gram Panchayats, on submission of the Utilization Certificates (UC) for previous installment drawn certifying existence of duly constituted Gram Panchayats on the basis of elections and transfer of the grants to the Gram Panchayats within fifteen days of receipt. In case of delay in transfer beyond the stipulated time of fifteen days, the State Government are to transfer the same along with penal interest at Bank Rate of the Reserve Bank of India for the delayed period from its own funds, to the Gram Panchayats and certify the same in the UC.

Status of allocation and release of FFC grants to Tamil Nadu is given in the Statement (*See below*). Recommendations for release of next instalment of grants are *inter alia* subject to constitution of Gram Panchayats in the State on the basis of elections.

(c) Ministry of Finance (MoF) guidelines dated 08.10.2015 provide that Gram