

Action against illegal mining

†71. SHRI SAMIR ORAON: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of illegal mining filed till date during last three years, the details thereof, year-wise;

(b) the details of all the companies/persons involved in illegal mining and whether they have ever been served with demand notice or fined, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the total amount of fine imposed and collected till date during last three years by the Central/State Governments; and

(d) the details of the steps taken till date by Central/State Governments to identify and check illegal mining during last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) As per Section 23C of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957, the State Governments are empowered to frame rules to prevent illegal mining. The State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, frame such rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals and for the purposes connected therewith in the State.

Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a sub-ordinate office under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines, receives returns on illegal mining from various states on quarterly basis. A compilation of such returns received for period from 2012-13 onwards 2018-19 (Upto September, 2018) indicating number of cases reported and action taken thereon is given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to answer to USQ No. 70 Part (a) to (c)]. The returns are not individual/company specific and no information is regarding individual/company is maintained centrally.

Ministry of Mines, through IBM, has developed the Mining Surveillance System, in collaboration with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics, Gandhinagar a satellite based monitoring system, for facilitating State Governments in curbing illegal mining activities in the country.

Illegal mining of minerals in Jharkhand

72. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of illegal mining of minerals, especially Bauxite in the State of Jharkhand during the last three years;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.