

Sl. No.	State/UT	2016
20.	Madhya Pradesh	20619
21.	Maharashtra	52576
22.	Manipur	1791
23.	Meghalaya	83
24.	Mizoram	512
25.	Nagaland	19365
26.	Odisha	1398
27.	Puducherry	16102
28.	Punjab	24059
29.	Rajasthan	85
30.	Sikkim	39716
31.	Tamil Nadu	4877
32.	Tripura	95989
33.	Uttar Pradesh	19850
34.	West Bengal	5363
35.	Uttarakhand	7847
TOTAL		486291

Source: RBI.

Adoption of new National Mineral Policy

3275. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved new National Mineral Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has decided to auction the unused reserved areas allotted to PSUs also, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the "National Mineral Policy 2019" (NMP 2019). The Ministry of Mines uploaded the "NMP 2019" on its official website *i.e.* "<https://mines.gov.in>" on 12.03.2019. The salient features of NMP are as below:

1. To explore the country's entire geological potential, it shall be ensured that regional and detailed exploration is carried out systematically, scientifically and intensively over the entire geologically conducive mineral bearing area of the country, using state-of-the-art technologies, including seismic 2D/3D interpretative systems, in a lime bound manner.
2. There will be an emphasis on strengthening the regulatory mechanism by incorporating E-Governance, including satellite and remote sensing applications. Provisions shall be made for end-to-end accounting of mineral/ore in the supply chain with use of it enabled systems.
3. National inventory of mineral resources will be based on comprehensive and up to date review of exploration data which will be maintained in digitised form comprising both a resource inventory and a tenement registry.
4. As part of Initiative for ease of doing business the States shall make an endeavour to auction mineral blocks with pre-embedded statutory clearances.
5. The regulatory agencies will be suitably strengthened through capacity building measures in terms of adequate manpower, technology, equipment and skill-set.

NMP 2019 states that endeavour shall be made to rationalize those areas that were reserved but remained unused by PSUs, for speedy development.

Strategy to tap mineral resources

3276. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the plan and strategy of Government to tap the abundance of various mineral resources in different parts of the country including Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(b) the details thereof and the steps taken by Government for mining and utilisation of these minerals for the economic development of the country;