

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 120
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2025

GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

120 SHRI A. A. RAHIM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of greenhouse gas emissions caused by mining activities in the country, year-wise;
- (b) the estimated loss of biodiversity and forest cover due to mining activities, and the manner in which this has contributed to greenhouse gas emissions;
- (c) the number of mining companies that have been penalized for exceeding permissible emission limits during the last five years, and the details of such penalties, year-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to mandate stricter emission control measures for mining companies, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a) The Central Pollution Control Board has informed that as per India Fourth Bi-annual Update Report by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), the Green House Gas emissions by mining and quarrying is estimated to be 1.4% of the total estimated Green House Gas emissions of 3,90,667 Gg CO₂ during 2020.
- (b) As per existing law, before execution of the mining lease, it is mandatory to obtain the requisite statutory clearances from various Ministries/Departments of the Central Government and respective State Governments, including Forest Clearance and Environmental Clearance. As part of the Forest Clearance, the prospective lessee is required to undertake compensatory afforestation in lieu of the diversion of forest land for mining. Therefore, there are adequate measures to ensure that there is no loss in forest cover due to mining activities.
- (c) & (d) As part of grant of Environmental Clearance, the prospective lessees carry out Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) and submit the Environment Management Plan (EMP) based on scientific study by taking into consideration of likely the impact of project activity on the

baseline environment. The mining lease holders are also required to implement the environmental mitigation measures as approved during grant of Environmental Clearance.

The violations of the conditions of the Environment Clearance are dealt under the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 which is administered by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

MoEF&CC stipulates certain specific and standard conditions while issuing Environmental Clearance to the Mining projects and has notified the environmental standards for mining. The environmental standards are enforced by the respective State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) through consent mechanism under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. The SPCBs/PCCs carry out periodic monitoring to verify the compliance of the consent conditions imposed to the unit.
