

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 114**  
ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024

**MM(DR) ACT, 1957**

114 # SHRI CHUNNILAL GARASIYA:

Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government intends to fix the maximum area with regard to prospecting license and mining lease for major minerals under Section 6(1)(a) and (b) of the MM(DR) Act, 1957;
- (b) if so, by when; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): The maximum area limit for various mineral concessions is prescribed under Section 6(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 [MMDR Act, 1957]. As per Section 6(1)(a) of the MMDR Act, no person shall acquire in respect of any mineral or prescribed group of associated minerals in a State, one or more prospecting licences covering a total area of more than twenty-five square kilometers. Further, as per Section 6(1)(b) of the MMDR Act, no person shall acquire in respect of any mineral or prescribed group of associated minerals in a State, one or more mining leases covering a total area of more than ten square kilometers.

The Central Government is empowered to increase the aforesaid area limits in the interest of the development of any mineral or industry, in so far as it pertains to any particular mineral, or to any specified category of deposits of such mineral, or to any particular mineral located in any particular area. The area limits have been increased in respect of certain minerals for particular States from time to time.

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