

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1545
ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024

MINERAL RESERVES INTERNATIONAL REPORTING STANDARDS

1545 SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that mining companies, stock exchanges and regulatory bodies across the globe are adhering to the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CMRIRS);
- (b) if so, the reasons as to why India is following the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFCR) to extract minerals;
- (c) what is the difference between CMRIRS and UNFCR;
- (d) in view of not getting any response in the auction for lithium blocks in Reasi, will Government consider following CMRIRS instead of UNFCR; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Government of India follows the Minerals (Evidence of Mineral Contents) Rules 2015 for classification of the solid mineral resources of the country except coal, lignite and sand for stowing, minor minerals and the minerals listed in Part B of the First Schedule to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (67 of 1957). The classification system is drawn mainly from both the United Nations Framework Classification (UNFCR) and Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CMRIRS) template.

(c): The UNFCR has been developed through the cooperation and collaboration of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and non-ECE member countries, other United Nations agencies and international organizations, intergovernmental bodies, professional associations and societies, academia and the private sector. The classification is an universally and internationally applicable system based on market economy criteria and is designed to meet the requirements of resource management function of the government as well as the industry, policy formulation based on resource studies, corporate business processes as well as financial capital allocation.

In contrast, CMRIRS is a body of representatives of Professional Organizations from various countries with its own governance system. CMRIRS has developed an International Reporting Template for the Public Reporting of mineral resources and mineral reserves. The representative members of CMRIRS, develop resource classification systems for their country which is aligned to the CMRIRS template and is approved by the CMRIRS committee. The template is designed exclusively for public reporting for companies registered in the stock

exchanges and in its guidance to the definition of “Reporting of Mineral Resources”, explicitly mentions that the template is not applicable for certain reports such as inventory reports, exploration reports to government etc.

(d) & (e): The MEMC Rules 2015 adequately meet the requirements of the auctioning of mineral blocks in the country and resource management functions of the government as well as the industry. Since notification of the MEMC Rules 2015, the government has successfully auctioned 441 mineral blocks and it has not come to the notice of the government that auction of any block has been cancelled or annulled due to any short comings in the MEMC Rules 2015. The rules are amended from time to time as per requirement through broad stakeholder consultations.
