

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1547**  
ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024

**SUSTAINABLE MINING PRACTICES**

1547 SHRI MUZIBULLA KHAN:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the initiatives taken by Government to promote sustainable mining practices across the country;
- (b) the adoption of best practices in mining operations in Odisha and other States; and
- (c) the incentives provided to companies following sustainable mining guidelines?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): Ministry of Mines has implemented Sustainable Mining Practices by making provisions under Chapter-V of Mineral Conservation and Development Rules (MCDR), 2017. Provisions have been incorporated in the rules for precaution against air pollution, prevention of discharge of toxic liquid, precaution against noise, control of surface subsidence etc.

Rule 35 of MCDR, 2017 provides for star rating of the mining leases based on the sustainable mining practices adopted by the miners. Further, as per Rule 35 (4) of MCDR, 2017, every holder of a mining lease including in Odisha is mandated to achieve at least three-star rating within a period of four years from the date of commencement of mining operations and thereafter maintain the same on year-on-year basis.

The year-wise number of 3 star and above rated mines for the last three years is given below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of 3 star and above rated mines (All India)</b>	<b>No. of 3 star and above rated mines (Odisha)</b>
2020-21	922	82
2021-22	1040	92
2022-23	1129	93

Every year, the 5 star rated mines are felicitated by the Ministry of Mines in an award ceremony in recognition of their work towards sustainable mining. The mines are mandated to maintain at least 3 star rating to continue mining operations.

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