

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 329

ANSWERED ON 28/11/2024

MINING OF MINERAL SAND IN COASTAL AREAS

329. SHRI GOLLA BABURAO

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether Government is planning to give permission to the private sector for mining of mineral sand containing radioactive elements in the coastal region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the manner in which the regulatory framework will govern the mining activities in specific regions, the details thereof; and
- (e) the criteria for selecting private sector participants?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) No. Beach Sand Mineral (BSM) containing radioactive elements in the coastal region to continue to be in Part B of First schedule of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act and their activities governed by regulations as per Atomic Minerals Concession Rules (Amendment) Rules 2019. Hence, private players are not permitted for mining of mineral sand containing radioactive elements in the coastal region.
- (c) (d) CRZ-2011/2019 notification read along with subsequent amendments provides regulatory framework for carrying out mining of atomic mineral bearing sand in coastal areas. Mining in the coastal area is allowed to be carried out by a Lessee only after obtaining Environmental Clearance, CRZ Clearance, Approved Mining Plan, Consent to Establish and Consent to Operate. The conditions contained in the aforesaid clearances are monitored for compliance so as to ensure responsible and sustainable mining practices.
- (e) In view of (a) above, the query does not arise.
