

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1236
ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025

IMPACT OF MMDR AMENDMENT ACT, 2023

1236 SHRI RAMBHAI HARJIBHAI MOKARIYA:
SHRI DEEPAK PRAKASH:
DR. SUMER SINGH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state:

- (a) the expected economic impact of MMDR Amendment Act, 2023 on local Communities and industries; and
- (b) the measures being taken to monitor and assess the effectiveness of the new provisions introduced in the MMDR Act?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Central Government has amended the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 [MMDR Act, 1957] through the MMDR Amendment Act, 2023 with effect from 17.08.2023 with an objective of promoting exploration and mining of critical and deep-seated minerals in the country. Pursuant to the said amendment, the sub-ordinate legislation to implement the provisions of the amendment has also been notified.

The auction of critical minerals bring several key benefits, including bolstering domestic production, reducing import dependency, promoting sustainable resource management, attracting investments in the mining sector and the development of key industries crucial for India's industrial and technological advancement. This is a step towards creating a reliable supply chain of these minerals and making an 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' and contribute towards increased economic growth and employment in mining sector. These minerals are also vital to power the transition to a low-carbon economy, and the renewable technologies that will be required to meet the 'Net Zero' commitment of India by 2070.

So far, the Central Government has successfully auctioned 24 critical mineral blocks in four tranches. The success of the auctions is testimony to the effectiveness of the new provisions introduced in the MMDR Act.
