

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2660
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

‘MINERALS TO MILESTONES’ PAVILION AT IITF 2024

2660. MS. KAVITA PATIDAR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the key objectives behind the 'Minerals to Milestones' pavilion at IITF 2024;
- (b) manner in which it align with the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047; and
- (c) whether Government has conducted any assessment of the impact of mining sector innovations on local employment generation and economic growth, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The key objectives of ‘Minerals to Milestones’ pavilion of Ministry of Mines at the India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2024, New Delhi are to showcase the essential role minerals play in fostering a self-reliant India and achieving key national milestones, with a focus on sustainable and innovative mining practices. Mineral security is important for the vision of ‘Viksit Bharat’ 2047, for which focused attention has been laid on key drivers such as exploration, auctioning and operationalizing of mineral blocks, recycling, research & development and skilling. Most of these aspects were showcased in the pavilion, thereby aligning with the Vision of a developed India 2047.

(c) Key innovations in the mining sector over the last ten years include introduction of auction method for allocation of mineral blocks, setting up of National Mineral Exploration Trust to fund exploration activity uniform lease period of 50 years and setting up of District Mineral Foundation (DMF) to undertake welfare activities for people in mining areas which also include supporting various Self Help Groups (SHGs.) in DMF Districts. Many of these SHGs also presented and sold their products of value of above 8 lakhs in IITF. These innovations have led to increase in employment and contributed to economic growth. As per a Study, “Human Resource and Skill Requirement in the Mining Sector in India 2019-2025”, conducted by the Skill Council for Mining Sector (SCMS), total employment in mining sector stood at 117 lakh in 2018-19, and incremental employment from 2019-2025 at 8.5 lakh. Mining and quarrying sector contributes about 2 percent of India’s Gross Domestic Product.
