

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 922
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025

**PERMIT FOR MINING IN SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES
AREAS**

922 SHRI CHANDRAKANT DAMODAR HANDORE:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government permits mining activities in areas where Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) are in the majority;
- (b) whether stringent rules and guidelines have been prescribed for such mining activities to safeguard the rights and interests of the local SC/ST population;
- (c) action taken by Government to safeguard the interests of SC employees in various institutions under Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The mineral concessions are granted in accordance with the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation), Act, 1957 (MMDR Act) and the Rules framed thereunder. The MMDR Act and the Rules framed thereunder specify the procedure for both the cases i.e. where minerals vest in the State Governments and where minerals vest in a person other than the Government.

As per the provisions of Section 4(i) of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996, which is administered by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, the Gram Sabha or the Panchayats at the appropriate level shall be consulted before making the acquisition of land in the Scheduled Areas for development projects and before re-settling or rehabilitating persons affected by such projects in the Scheduled Areas.

(c) & (d): The Ministry complies with the various policies of the Government with respect to safeguarding the interests of SC employees.
