

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 119#
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2026

ILLEGAL MINING AND MINING SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

119# SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of State-wise alerts (triggers) generated by the Mining Surveillance System (MSS) regarding suspected illegal mining activity during the last two years;
- (b) out of the alerts received, the number of cases in which physical verification has been carried out and action taken by the State Governments at the ground level; and
- (c) the steps being taken to curb illegal mining, transportation and storage in the country, and to make the States more accountable under Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act (MMDR Act)?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL AND MINES
(SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY)

(a) & (b): The State-wise details of alerts (triggers) generated by the Mining Surveillance System (MSS) during the last two years (2023-24 & 2024-25) are furnished below:

State	Triggers Generated	Triggers verified by State	Unauthorised Mining confirmed
Andhra Pradesh	18	11	0
Assam	2	0	0
Bihar	1	0	0
Chhattisgarh	39	2	0
Goa	11	11	6
Gujarat	33	17	0
Himachal Pradesh	8	0	0
Jammu and Kashmir	20	20	1
Jharkhand	13	0	0
Karnataka	11	11	2
Madhya Pradesh	50	34	5
Maharashtra	10	0	0
Meghalaya	34	0	0
Odisha	9	0	0
Rajasthan	12	0	0
Tamil Nadu	15	3	1

Telangana	4	3	0
Uttar Pradesh	5	0	0
Grand Total	295	112	15

As given in the above table, out of 295 triggers, in 112 cases verification has been carried out by the concerned States and in 15 cases unauthorised mining has been confirmed.

(c): Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 empowers the State Government to frame rules to prevent illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals and for purposes connected therewith. The control of illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals and purposes connected therewith is the primary responsibility of the State Government. However, the Central Government has taken various measures for curbing illegal mining across the country. Some of these steps are as under:

(i) The MMDR Act, 1957 was amended through the MMDR (Amendment) Act, 2015, wherein Sections 30B and 30C read with Section 21 and 23C, inter-alia, provide stringent punitive provisions for fake transportation permits etc. Illegal mining, transportation and storage has been made punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with fine which may extend to five lakh rupees per hectare of the area. Provisions have also been made for setting up of Special Courts for the purpose of providing speedy trial of offences relating to illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals.

(ii) The Ministry of Mines has launched the Mining Surveillance System (MSS) through Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) in collaboration with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG), Gandhinagar for detection of incidence of illegal mining by use of space technology and surveillance of area up to 500m outside the lease boundary to check incidences of illegal mining.
