

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY & PROMOTION**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1885.  
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016.**

**LEASE OF SALT LAND**

**1885. DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA:**

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

**वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री**

- (a) whether the Salt Commissioner granted land leases for salt cultivation in the country including Mumbai in early 20th century;
- (b) if so, whether a large number of salt land lease in Mumbai expire in October, 2016; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of these salt land leases and action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग राज्यमंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)(श्रीमती निर्मला सीतारमण)**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)**

- (a): The Salt Commissioner granted land lease for salt cultivation in the country including Mumbai in early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.
- (b): Lease of six salt works expired in October, 2016.
- (c): Details along with present status of these salt land leases and action taken by the Government is **annexed**.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1885 FOR ANSWER ON 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016.**

<b>S.</b>	<b>Name of Salt Works</b>	<b>Present Status</b>
1.	Arthur Salt Works, Bhandup Salt Factory	Lease of Arthur and Jenkins Salt Works was terminated vide orders dated 02-11-2004, due to non-manufacturing of salt. This order was challenged by the ex-licensees in the High Court Bombay (now transferred to City Civil Court and renumbered as Suit No. 6256 of 2005). Hon'ble court granted stay order against creating third rights and taking possession of the suit lands. Notice of Motion No. 3788 of 2016 in Suit No. 6256 of 2005 has been filed on 29-09-2016 in Hon'ble City Civil Court praying for dismissal of the suit land in view of expiry of lease on 14-10-2016. A praecipe was also filed on 17-10-2016 for early hearing which was not granted by the Hon'ble City Civil Court. The possession of the land is still with the lessee.
2.	Jenkins salt Works, Bhandup Salt Factory	
3.	Jamasp Salt Works, Bhandup Salt Factory	Lease of Jamasp and Battiwala Salt Works was terminated vide orders dated 01-04-2005, due to non-manufacturing of salt; which was challenged by the lessee in Suit No. 1172 of 2005. Hon'ble High Court, Bombay issued interim order dated 05-06-2006 and restrained the Department from taking over possession of the suit lands. Salt Commissioner Organization filed appeal No. 534 of 2006 against this order including interlocutory application (I.A.) against the operation of the orders dated 05-06-2006, which is pending before the Hon'ble Court for final hearing.
4.	Battiwala Salt Works, Bhandup salt Factory	In view of expiry of lease on 14-10-2016, a notice of Motion No. 2481 of 2016 in Suit No. 1172 of 2005 was filed on 01-10-2016 in Hon'ble High Court, Bombay praying for dismissal of the suit and for taking possession of the suit land. A praecipe was also filed on 14-10-2016 for early hearing, which was not granted by the Hon'ble High Court. The matter is pending in the Court of law and possession of the land is still with the lessee.
5.	Shepherd Salt Works, Bhandup Salt Factory	Due to non-manufacturing of salt and non-payment of Government dues and for entering into agreement with Ajmera Housing Corporation, the lease was terminated in 1989-90. Aggrieved by this termination order, the lessee filed Writ Petition No. 19/1990 in Hon'ble Bombay High Court, which was dismissed. Subsequently parties filed SLP No. 9024 of 2008 in Hon'ble Supreme Court against High Court's order.
6.	Shepherd Annex Salt Works, Bhandup Salt Factory	Civil Appeal No. 5867 of 2013 arising out of SLP 9024 of 2008 is pending in the Supreme Court. The possession of the land is still with the lessee.