

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF MINES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2353

TO BE ANSWERED ON 16TH MARCH, 2017

NON-FUNCTIONAL MINES

†2353. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:

Will the Minister of **MINES** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of non-functional mines in the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) whether some of these mines have not been developed by the Government during the last as well as current plan period, and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to cancel the mining leases of such mines and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make them functional at the earliest?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): As per information made available by Indian Bureau of Mines, a sub-ordinate office of the Ministry of Mines, the number of non-working mines in the country (State-wise) as on 09.03.2017 is given at **Annexure**.

(b) to (d): State Governments grant mineral concessions. Compliance of the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the rules framed thereunder are monitored by the Indian Bureau of Mines (a subordinate office of Ministry of Mines) and the State Government, including the non-working mines.

There could be various reasons for the mining leases to be non-working, such as: (i) want of clearances under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and other statutory provisions; (ii) suspension of mining operations on account of court orders; or (iii) temporary suspension of mining operations for violation of lease conditions. Commencement of mining operations in such leases would be subject to obtaining the necessary clearances, the outcome of the court cases, or the rectification of the lease violation, as the case may be.

Section 4A(4) of the MMDR Act provides for lapsing of the leases wherein the holder of a mining lease fails to undertake mining operations for a period of two years after the date of execution of the lease or having commenced mining operations, has discontinued the same for a period of two years. State Governments enforce the provisions of the said section and leases found to be in violation of the said provision are liable to be lapsed in accordance with the procedure contemplated in rule 20(2) of the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbon Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016, whereby the lapsing of a mining lease shall be recorded through an order issued by the State Government and shall also be communicated to the lessee.

Once such leases are lapsed/cancelled, they can be put to auction by the concerned State Government for commencement of the mining operations and production of minerals.

Annexure mentioned in reply to Lok Sabha unstarred question number 2353 for 16.03.2017 regarding non-functional mines asked by Shri Jugal Kishore

State-wise details of non-working mines as on 09/03/2017

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of Non-Working Mines
1	Goa	211
2	Jammu and Kashmir	03
3	Haryana	04
4	Uttarakhand	04
5	Himachal Pradesh	23
6	Gujarat	205
7	Jharkhand	78
8	West Bengal	04
9	Sikkim	03
10	Andhra Pradesh	275
11	Telangana	45
12	Odisha	309
13	Maharashtra	51
14	Chhattisgarh	66
15	Tamil Nadu	248
16	Karnataka	194
17	Kerala	02
18	Madhya Pradesh	381
19	Uttar Pradesh	02
20	Bihar	01
21	Rajasthan	73
22	Assam	04
23	Meghalaya	04
24	Manipur	01
Grand Total		2191