

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1011
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2017
ABANDONED MINES**

†1011. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any policy to revive/rejuvenate abandoned mines and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of abandoned mines that were revived /rejuvenated during the last three years;
- (c) the number of mining sites identified for the purpose; and
- (d) the future steps the Government is contemplating to take in this regard?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND COAL
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)**

(a) to (d): There is no policy to revive/rejuvenate abandoned mines. However, there are provisions in the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017 prescribing procedures for abandonment of mines, which, *inter alia*, requires carrying out protective, reclamation and rehabilitation work in accordance with the mine closure plan.

The mine owner has the responsibility to ensure that the protective measures including reclamation and rehabilitation works have been carried out in accordance with the approved mine closure plan so that the land is restored, to the extent possible, to the condition in which it was before commencement of the mining operations. After mine closure, the land can be put to alternate use.
