

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1977
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.12.2017

Illegal Mining from Rivers

1977. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government has taken note of illegal mining from rivers causing damage to the environment and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the policy/ scheme proposed to be formulated by the Government to check illegal mining from rivers;
- (c) whether the Government has taken action against sand mafias engaged in illegal sand mining and propose to make sand mining free for common man; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)**

(a) to (d): State Governments have been empowered to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals under Section 23C of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957. As informed by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) (a subordinate office of Ministry of Mines), the details of illegal mining reported in various parts of the country and the action taken by the State Governments for the last five years i.e. 2013-14 to 2017-18 (upto quarter ending June, 2017) is annexed. It is further informed that prior Environmental Clearance is mandatory for all kinds of mining including river mining as per provisions of Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006 as amended from time to time.

Further, with a view to promote sustainable sand mining in the States, the Government vide notification dated 15.01.2016 has delegated the Authority of Environmental clearance of minor minerals up to 5 hectare of individual mining lease and 25 hectares in clusters to the District Environment Impact Assessment Authority (DEIAA) headed by the District Magistrate/ District Collector. A District Expert Appraisal Committee (DEAC) has also been constituted under the chairmanship of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Department to assist the DEIAA. The Ministry has also notified the constitution of DEIAA and DEAC, vide Notification SO No. 190(E) dated 20.01.2016. The Ministry has also issued the Sustainable Sand Mining Guidelines, 2016.

Statement showing Year wise State wise Cases of Illegal Mining for Major & Minor Minerals.

Illegal mining cases							Action taken from 2013-14 to 2017-18 (Up to Quarter ending June – 2017)			
Sr. No.	State	*2013-14	*2014-15	*2015-16	**2016-17	2017-18 (Quarter ending June – 2017)	FIR Lodged (Nos.)	Court Cases Filed (Nos.)	Vehicle Seized (No.)	Fine realized by State Govt. (Rs. Lakh)
1	Andaman & Nicobar	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.
2	Andhra Pradesh	7692	9379	9953	9703	2017	3	6	2	13453.66
3	Assam	0	0	0	n.r.	n.r.	0	0	0	0
4	Chhattisgarh	3994	4953	5862	4794	1430	2	2099 0	1138	3188.423
5	Goa	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0
6	Gujarat	5447	5716	6499	8325	2440	365	29	18907	14449.80
7	Haryana	4548	5333	3912	1345	527	654	0	0	3765.03
8	Himachal Pradesh	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	0	0	0	0
**9	Jharkhand	901	1162	1645	694	204	2335	343	3048	389.74
10	Karnataka	8509	8464	9185	5692	1440	1593	458	10989	9948.55
11	Kerala	4448	4172	3701	4861	1369	0	0	0	7016.40
12	Madhya Pradesh	6725	8173	13627	13880	3824	497	3903 1	2978	78302.91
13	Maharashtra	3647 6	3271 7	33621	31173	5719	712	1	13970 6	26716.23
14	Mizoram	21	26	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	1	0	0	1.537
15	Odisha	76	104	62	45	11	0	4	77	1053.61
16	Punjab	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.	n.r.
17	Rajasthan	2953	2945	3661	3945	906	2434	35	10249	6268.52
18	Sikkim	0	0	0	n.r.	n.r.	0	0	0	0
***19	Tamilnadu	1078	205	58	56	n.r.	10734	1	35166	12285.82
20	Telangana	-	3311	6538	5839	1687	0	0	3	5125.29
****21	Uttar Pradesh	8718	1002 4	11575	5737	n.r.	562	439	0	9333.57
22	West Bengal	n.r.	n.r.	575	n.r.	n.r.	1132	0	218	0
Grand Total		9158 7	9668 4	11047 6	96089	21574	20569	5775 8	21365 0	173676.4 0

n. r. – quarterly return not received.

* Data received from the State Government has been verified & revised as directed vide Ministry's letter no. 16/135/2016-M.VI dated, 26/12/2016 for the year 2013-14, 2014-15 & 2015-16.

** Data has been revised as the QR for the Quarter ending March 2017 from State Govt. of Jharkhand received vide letter No. Tech-16(4)/RAN/2016-17 VOL V dated 07/09/2017.

*** Data not received from the State Govt. of Tamilnadu for last quarter of Year 2016-17 & First Quarter of Year 2017-18.

**** Data not received from the State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh for last two quarters of Year 2016-17 & First Quarter of Year 2017-18.