

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1981
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.12.2017

Illegal Mining in Rajasthan

1981. SHRI HARISH MEENA:

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

- (a) the details of the number of agencies/companies which got clearance from his Ministry for mining in Rajasthan location-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has received complaints regarding illegal mining activities in Rajasthan; and
- (c) if so, the details of legal action taken by the Government against offenders?

ANSWER

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

(a) The Ministry has granted Environmental Clearances (ECs) to Thirty One (31) mining projects in the State of Rajasthan in the last 3 years. Out of 31 ECs, 12 ECs of River sand/ Bajri mining have been kept in abeyance by the Ministry pursuant to Hon'ble Supreme Court directions dated 16.11.2017 restraining sand mining operations by 82 Letter of Intent holders. Hence, a total of 19 ECs are effective as on date, out of which 3 are in Chittaurgarh, 3 in Bhilwara, two each in Pali and Rajasamand, one each in Barmer, Bikaner, Bharatpur, Jhunjhunu, Kota, Sirohi, Sri Ganganagar and Udaipur Districts.

(b)&(c) 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. 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. As per the information provided by the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) (a subordinate office of Ministry of Mines) a total of 14,410 cases of illegal mining have been reported from the State of Rajasthan since 2013-14. Out of these, FIR has been lodged in 2434 cases, Court cases filed in 35 cases, 10249 No. of vehicles seized and Rs. 6268.52 lakh has been realised as fine.
