

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 941**  
ANSWERED ON 08.02. 2018

**ILLEGAL MINING**

941. SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Union Government has made any payment to the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and other remote sensing organizations engaged for detecting illegal mining and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there are reports that some companies involved earlier in illegal mining and violating Supreme Court orders in various parts of the country have been given fresh approval by the State Governments and clearance from the Union Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for giving clearance to them, State/ UT-wise;
- (d) whether any status report has been sought by the Union Government from some States about illegal mining; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof including Uttar Pradesh along with the action taken by the Union Government in this regard State/UT-wise?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) The Mines and Mineral Development & Regulation (MMDR) Act, 1957 under Section 23C empowers the State Governments, to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals. However, in order to best harness the available space technology by National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), a center of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the Ministry of Mines has assisted the States in curbing the incidences of illegal mining by taking the following steps:

- (i) Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), Nagpur a subordinate office of Ministry of Mines has entered into a MoU with NRSC on 21.01.2016 for a pilot project "*Sudoor Drishti*" to demonstrate the feasibility of using High Resolution Satellite imagery and Digital Elevation Model in monitoring mining activities / changes over a period of time over selected group of mines. The Limestone mining areas in Tandur region of Telangana State and Iron ore mining areas in Bellary-Hospet region of Karnataka State were identified for pilot study to demonstrate the effectiveness of technology with particular reference to volumetric assessment. A sum of Rs 15,44,000/- has been paid to NRSC for this study.
- (ii) Ministry of Mines through Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), and in association with the Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Applications & Geo-Informatics (BISAG), Gandhinagar and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MietY), have developed a 'Mining Surveillance System' (MSS) for curbing the incidence of illegal mining with the use of satellite based technology. MSS has been launched for major minerals on 15.10.2016.

(b) to (c): No, Madam. There is no information about such reports. However, with the amendment of MMDR Act in 2015, there has been a paradigm shift in the grant of mineral concessions, which is now to be done through e-auctions instead of allocations, for ensuring greater transparency. A total of 34 mineral blocks have been granted through e-auctions till now.

(d) to (e): The State Governments submit quarterly returns on cases of illegal mining to IBM. The consolidated details thereof, showing Year wise & State wise cases of illegal mining for major & minor minerals, including that of Uttar Pradesh, along with the action taken, is enclosed as Annexure.

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

Illegal mining cases							Action taken from 2013-14 to 2017-18 (Up to Quarter ending September – 2017)			
Sr. No.	State	*2013 –14	*2014 – 15	*2015 – 16	2016-17	2017-18 (Quarter ending Sept – 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	4063	3	12	3	14323.275
3	Assam	0	0	0	n. r.	n. r.	0	0	0	0
4	Chhattisgarh	3994	4953	5862	4794	2227	2	21787	1138	3338.376
5	Goa	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0
6	Gujarat	5447	5716	6499	8325	4586	382	29	20715	15667.05
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	<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	n.r.	n. r.	n. r.	n. r.	928	0	0	928	5.088
***9	<b>Jharkhand</b>	901	1162	1645	838	204	2444	343	3132	432.87
10	Karnataka	8509	8464	9185	5692	2830	1798	468	11497	11163.03
11	Kerala	4448	4172	3701	4861	3017	0	0	0	8054.73
12	Madhya Pradesh	6725	8173	13627	13880	7854	516	41299	2978	113206.21
13	Maharashtra	36476	32717	33621	31173	10797	794	1	144784	28178.52
14	Mizoram	21	26	n. r.	n. r.	n. r.	1	0	0	1.537
15	Odisha	76	104	62	45	25	0	4	77	1111.407
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	2025	2536	37	11248	6794.672
18	Sikkim	0	0	0	n. r.	n. r.	0	0	0	0
****19	<b>Tamilnadu</b>	1078	205	58	<b>56</b>	48	10734	1	35166	12285.82
20	Telangana	-	3311	6538	5839	3203	0	0	4	5314.43
****21	<b>Uttar Pradesh</b>	8718	10024	11575	<b>5737</b>	<b>n. r.</b>	562	439	0	9333.57
22	West Bengal	n.r.	n. r.	575	n. r.	n. r.	1132	0	218	0
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>91587</b>	<b>96684</b>	<b>110476</b>	<b>96233</b>	<b>42334</b>	<b>21559</b>	<b>64420</b>	<b>231889</b>	<b>232975.615</b>

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.

\*\* The Jammu & Kashmir State has submitted First QR by mail dated 26/12/2017 for the Quarter ending June 2017 for the year 2017-18 vide letter No. 92/MCC/DGM/Task Force/15/5772 dated 13/11/2017.

\*\*\* 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 for the quarter ending Sept. 2017 not received.

\*\*\*\* Data from the State Govt. of Tamil Nadu for last quarter of Year 2016-17 is not received till date.

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

Data for the Quarter Ending December, 2017 (Year 2017-2018) is still awaited from all the States.