

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1458
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th DECEMBER, 2023

FARM LAND IN MINING AREAS

1458. MS. CHANDRANI MURMU

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the fact that farm lands in and around mining areas of Keonjhar district in Odisha are getting contaminated on regular basis and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any studies to find out the nature of damage to the soil as consumers too are being affected and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, whether the Government is considering to conduct a study to ascertain the damage so that people at large be benefited and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री (SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

(a) to (c) As per the State Pollution Control Board of Odisha, the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur has carried out a carrying capacity study on the direction of Hon'ble Supreme court for environmentally sustainable iron and manganese ore mining activity in Keonjhar, Sundargarh and Mayurbhanj districts of Odisha, in the year 2018. The study concluded that the detailed analysis of various physico-chemical, heavy metals and microbiological parameters did not indicate any adverse impact of mine overburden / mining activity on the general agricultural activity in the region. However, some of the soil samples were found acidic in nature.
