

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 326
ANSWERED ON 11.12.2019

FUTURE OF MINING

*326. SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the future of mining in our country appears uncertain due to the legal framework, resource overuse, environmental concerns, etc.; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the Government plans to address the above and other related issues?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) to (b): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

THE STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 326 REGARDING “FUTURE OF MINING” RAISED BY SHRI BHAGWANTH KHUBA, FOR REPLY ON 11.12.2019.

(a) and (b):- No, Sir. The Central Government has taken various steps for development of mining sector in the country. The Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) (**MMDR**) Act, 1957 was amended w.e.f. 12.01.2015 and auction has been introduced as a method of allocation of mining leases to bring greater transparency in the mining sector. The Central Government has made certain other amendments and works together with the State Governments for effective implementation of the Act and the Rules.

The Central Government has also formulated National Mineral Policy, 2019 for a vibrant and forward looking mineral sector.

Considering the future of mining industry National Mineral Exploration Trust has been constituted under Section 9(C) of the MMDR Act for taking up detailed and regional exploration and studies for mineral development. Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) have been entrusted the work of exploration in mining sector. Various Central and State Government agencies have been notified under section 4 of MMDR Act for undertaking exploration.

The Central Government has also amended the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017 and the concept of star rating and the period to achieve the star rating have been modified considering the problems faced by the medium and small mine owners.
