

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3880
ANSWERED ON 11.12.2019

ENHANCING MINERAL EXPLORATION AND MINING ACTIVITIES

3880. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR BELLANA:
SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has enhanced the mineral exploration and mining activities in the country recently and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has identified eleven Research and Development projects under its Science and Technology activity from academic institutions/PSUs under the programme and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the outcomes of these projects will pave the way in newer mineral discovery in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken various steps to enhance the mineral exploration and mining activities in the country. Exploration agencies have been notified under section 4 of the MMDR Act. Further, National Mineral Exploration Trust (NMET) has been constituted under section 9 (C) of the MMDR Act for the purpose of regional and detailed explorations. The Central Government also increases the area limit on the request of State Governments for development of mineral and industries.

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. During FY 2019-20 till date, 11 research and development projects have been identified by the Government under the Science and Technology Programme Scheme of Ministry of Mines with the vision to promote research in applied geosciences, mineral exploration, mining and allied areas, mineral processing, optimum utilization and conservation of the mineral resources of the country, for the benefit of the nation and its people. The details may be seen on the website of Ministry of Mines (www.mines.gov.in).
