GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2941
TO BE ANSWERED ON **03.08.2022**

Beach Sand Minerals

2941.   SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI:
    DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a)   whether the Andhra Pradesh Government submitted proposals for allocating 16 Beach Sand Minerals bearing areas to Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) as the prospective lessee;

(b)   if so, the number of areas recommended by the Union Government to APMDC as a prospective lessee;

(c)   the reasons for not recommending APMDC as prospective lessee for the remaining areas as of yet;

(d)   whether the Union Government proposes to issue recommendation in favour of APMDC as prospective lessee with respect to the remaining areas; and

(e)   if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)&(b)   (i) Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has received 17 proposals from Government of Andhra Pradesh for nominating Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) as prospective lessee for Beach Sand Minerals (BSM).

(ii) DAE has nominated APMDC as prospective lessee in respect of two BSM deposits in 90.15 Ha Bhimunipatnam Deposit, Visakhapatnam District and 1978.471 Ha Machilipatnam Deposit, Krishna District on 25.03.2021 and 15.04.2021 respectively.

(c),(d) & (e)   The processing of remaining proposals of APMDC has been kept in abeyance on receipt of a letter dated 11.06.2021 from Ministry of Mines in the context of complaints regarding damage to environment, violations of mining laws and clandestine export of Monazite. DAE took up the matter with Government of Andhra Pradesh requesting to investigate the allegations. Further, DAE has also requested Ministry of Mines for investigation by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) on alleged violations since the entire data on production, transportation, sale etc. is available with IBM.

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