

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1488**  
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024

**CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MINES**

1488 SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the role of the Union Government in development of minerals throughout the country and in particular in the grant of approvals for leasing of mines and grant of mineral concessions to the State Governments;
- (b) whether the Indian Bureau of Mines regulates the conservation and development of mines under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of mines available in West Bengal; and
- (d) the details regarding Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities which have been ensured during the last five years for the development of the labourers working in the said mines and the surrounding areas?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES  
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a): The Parliament has enacted the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 [MMDR Act, 1957] to provide for the development and regulation of mines and minerals. The mineral concessions are granted by the respective State Governments in accordance with the provisions of the MMDR Act, 1957.
- (b): Under the provisions of Section 18 of the MMDR Act, the Central Government is empowered to make rules *inter-alia* for the conservation and systematic development of minerals in India. Accordingly, the Central Government has framed the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017 which are administered by the Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM). IBM's works *inter-alia* include:
  - (i) Processing and approval of Mining Plans that include the proposals for systematic and scientific mining.

- (ii) Monitoring and regulation of mining activities in lease areas through inspections, analysis of statutory returns and digital imageries.
- (iii) Ensuring sustainable mining practices through Star Rating of Mines.

(c): As per the information available in the Ministry of Mines, there is one mining lease of major mineral in West Bengal.

(d): The provisions relating to the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) are covered under Section 135 of The Companies Act, 2013 which is administered by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs. The details of CSR works undertaken by companies in various States are available in the CSR portal which may be accessed at <https://www.csr.gov.in/>.

\*\*\*\*\*