

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3701
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024

RESERVATION OF LIMESTONE AREA IN TELANGANA

3701 SHRI CHAMALA KIRAN KUMAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Telangana for the reservation of limestone areas in Vikarabad district for the Telangana Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the status of this proposal as submitted during March 2024 under Section 17A (2) and related sections of the MMDR Act, 1957;
- (c) the reasons for the delay in processing this proposal and the expected timeline for its approval;
- (d) whether the Government has considered the socio-economic impact of this proposal on the backward areas of the region; and
- (e) the steps being taken to expedite the approval process to support regional development in Telangana?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Government of Telangana had sent two proposals on 11.03.2024 for reservation of limestone blocks over an area of 680 hectares and 753 hectares respectively in the Vikarabad district of Telangana in favor of Telangana State Mineral Development Corporation Ltd (TSMDCCL).

The proposals were examined in the Ministry in light of the amendment in the MMDR Act in 2015, whereby auction regime was introduced for grant of mineral concessions. Since then, 141 mineral blocks have been auctioned for mining lease or composite licence for limestone and allied minerals by various States. However, Government of Telangana has not auctioned any mineral block so far.

Government of Telangana has been requested to notify the aforesaid mineral blocks for auction and to encourage TSMDCCL to participate in the auction. Auction of these blocks will lead to start of production of limestone and consequent industrial activity which will lead to socio-economic development of the area. Further, auction of mineral blocks will increase the revenue and employment to the State Government from mining sector.
