

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1114
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

Soil Mining

1114. SHRI PATEL UMESHBHAI BABUBHAI:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that mining of soil has been done near Diu Airport and Fudam Cowshed in the Union Territory of Diu;
- (b) if so, the action taken in this regard and if not, whether an investigation will be made in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has given approval for mining of soil from the above-mentioned property;
- (d) if so, the details of the copy of this along with the order furnishing complete information about the royalty income earned from soil mining from the above-mentioned property; and
- (e) the complete information about the action that has been taken for approval on this subject?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) to (e): As per the inputs received from the UT Administration of Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu, no soil mining activity per se has been done near Diu Airport and Fudam Cowshed. Deputy Conservator of Forests, Daman and Diu has also reported that no incident of soil mining is noticed inside notified forest area near Diu Airport and Fudam Cowshed in the Union Territory of Diu.

UT Administration has also informed that in the meetings of Airfield Environment Committee (constituted as per letter No.53/1/80-Public dated 7th May, 1980 issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs), held on 31.01.2022, 15.11.2022 and 09.10.2023, the Air Traffic Service in-charge had raised issue about sand dumping along the boundary wall of Diu airport and requested for appropriate place of sand dumping far from the airport boundary wall as it was creating serious hazard to aircraft operation by reducing the effective height of boundary wall from outside. Taking note of safety concerns raised by the Air Traffic Service in-charge and as per the directions issued by the Chairperson of the Airfield Environment Committee i.e. the Collector, Diu, the sand was removed from the airport boundary walls and it has been utilized by the Public Works Department for backfilling of government project sites. At Fudam Cowshed, levelling of only Gaushala plot has been done.