

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4271
ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

ROADSHOW ON OFFSHORE SAND MINING

4271. ADV DEAN KURIAKOSE:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has organised a roadshow to seek proposed investment for offshore sand mining in Kerala recently;
- (b) if so, the places where the Roadshows were held and the sites which have been identified for offshore sand mining in Kerala;
- (c) the total amount spent by the Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL) for the event and the break up thereof;
- (d) whether any Public Sector Unit of the Government of Kerala was involved in the local co-ordination of the event;
- (e) if so, the details of the funds spent by the Government of Kerala towards the local hospitality and arrangement of the event; and
- (f) whether any impact study on the livelihood of fishermen community was conducted by IREL and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes, The Ministry of Mines launched the first tranche of offshore mineral auctions on November 28, 2024, offering a total of 13 offshore blocks. Out of these, three blocks are off the coast of Kerala are pertaining to construction sand.

To ensure transparency and encourage wider participation from the potential bidders, the Ministry of Mines organized two roadshows. The first roadshow was conducted at Porbandar, Gujarat, in December 2024, and the second roadshow was conducted at Kochi, Kerala, in January 2025.

(c) to (e) As per the information received from Govt. of Kerala, the cost for organizing the roadshow, of rupees five lakh, was borne by Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL).

(f) No impact study on the livelihoods of the fishermen community was conducted by Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL).
