

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4283
ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

RE-EXAMINATION OF TUNGSTEN BLOCKS

4283. SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has instructed Geological Survey of India (GSI) to re-examine the various tungsten blocks in the country particularly in notified biodiversity heritage sites famous for archaeological monuments and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether GSI has been suggested to explore the possibility of redefining the boundaries by excluding the biodiversity heritage site from the block and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Union Government has requested various States to keep the process of issuing the Letter of Intent to the preferred bidder, Hindustan Zinc Limited on hold for the time being considering the representations received against auctioning the blocks in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): In case of Nayakkarpatti Tungsten Block, Tamil Nadu, Geological Survey of India (GSI) was requested to re-examine and explore the possibility of redefining the block boundary by excluding the bio-diversity site area for Nayakkarpatti Tungsten Block.

(c) & (d): Subsequently, the auction of Nayakkarpatti Tungsten Block has been annulled on 25.01.2025 by the Central Government.
