GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †4324
ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

MINES OPERATING WITHOUT NOC

†4324. SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH**:**

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mines operating in the country without No Objection Certificate (NOC) from NGT;
(b) the action being taken by the Government against the illegal mining in operation without NOC in Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh;
(c) whether the Government has any system to check the transportation of minerals from other States like Bihar to Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 was amended in 2015 to introduce a transparent and non-discriminatory method of e-auction for grant of mineral concessions in respect of major minerals. So far, a total of 457 mineral blocks have been auctioned. Before signing of mining lease, the lease holders are required to obtain all the necessary approvals, permissions, licences, No Objection Certificates (NOCs) and the like as required under the applicable laws and regulation of the Central Government and State Governments.

(b) to (e): The Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 empowers the State Governments to frame rules to prevent illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals and for purposes connected therewith. Therefore, the control of illegal mining including illegal transportation is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Central Government supports and augments these efforts through policy initiatives from time to time. As per information available, Government of Uttar Pradesh and Government of Bihar have framed Uttar Pradesh Minerals (Prevention of Illegal Mining, Transportation and Storage) Rules, 2018 and Bihar Minerals (Concession, Prevention of Illegal Mining, Transportation & Storage) Rules, 2019 respectively.

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