

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †524**  
ANSWERED ON 03.12.2025

**RECLAMATION WORK OF EXPIRE MINES**

†524. SHRI MURARI LAL MEENA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several mines in various mining areas of Rajasthan have neither been subjected to earth filling nor had reclamation work has been undertaken even after the expiry of the lease-period leading to rainwater logging and severe threats of impending accidents, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the incidents like collapse of the closed down mines, water-logging and falling of the cattle-breeders have constantly been reported in several districts including Makrana in Rajasthan;
- (c) if so, the number of such incidents reported during the last three years including action taken thereon;
- (d) whether there is clear mention in the lease agreements that on the expiry of the lease period the mine shall be made safe by filling it with soil, debris and stones; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) As per the information provided by the Government of Rajasthan, one case of soil collapse in the closed quarry area has been reported in Makrana Tehsil, Didwana-Kuchaman District in the last three years. No human or animal loss occurred in this incident.

(d) & (e) In respect of major minerals, the 'Terms and Conditions of a Mining Lease' is prescribed under Rule 12 of the Minerals (Other than Atomic and Hydro Carbons Energy Minerals) Concession Rules, 2016 [MCR, 2016]. As per Rule 12(1)(m) of the MCR, 2016, the lessee shall restore, to the extent possible, the landform affected by the mining operations. Further, Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 2017 prescribe provisions for systematic and scientific development and provisions for closure, reclamation and rehabilitation.

Further, there is a condition 3.2(iv) of 'Rights and Obligations' of Mining Lease under Schedule VII of the MCR, 2016 which provides that the lessee shall take measures, at his own expense, for the protection of environment like planting of trees, reclamation of mined land, use of pollution-control devices, and such other measures as may be prescribed by the Central or State Government from time to time.

Further, as per the information provided by the Government of Rajasthan, in respect of minor minerals, there is a provision under Rule 29(13) of the Rajasthan Minor Mineral Concession Rule, 2017 for reclamation in accordance with the approved final mine closure plan. In an expired mining lease, if the lessee fails to initiate reclamation in accordance with the approved final mine closure plan, the financial assurance submitted by the lessee may be forfeited under Rule 29(18) of the Rajasthan Minor Mineral Concession Rules, 2017. But if the availability of minerals is proved in the expired mining lease, then there is a provision to auction that area again as per the rules.

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