GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF MINES

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2329 TO BE ANSWERED ON 9th MAY 2016

ILLEGAL MINING

2329. SHRI C S PUTTA RAJU: Dr. MANOJ RAJORIA:

Will the Minister of **MINES** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of illegal mining have been reported in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated revenue loss incurred to the Government therefrom during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government faces difficulties in taking action against persons involved in illegal mining in the country;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the corrective action taken by the Government against the persons involved in the illegal mining and the extent of success achieved therefrom?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

(a) to (e): State Governments are empowered, under Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act, 1957) to make rules for prevention of illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals; and, therefore, matters relating to illegal mining come under the legislative and administrative jurisdiction of State Governments.

However, based on the quarterly returns on illegal mining submitted by various State Governments to Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), the total cases of illegal mining in the country reported from year 2012-13 to 2015-16 (Quarter ending September, 2015) is provided in **Annexure-I**. The details on estimated total revenue loss are not maintained centrally.

The MMDR Act, 1957 was amended through the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 which came into effect from 12th January, 2015. The Amendment Act has, inter alia, provided for stringent punitive provisions for combating illegal mining. Illegal mining has been made punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with fine which may extend to five lakh rupees per hectare of the area. Provisions have been made for setting up of Special Courts for the purpose of providing speedy trial of offences relating to illegal mining.

Annexure-I Statement showing Year wise State wise Cases of Illegal Mining for Major & Minor Minerals.

| Illegal mining cases | | | | | | Action taken from 2012-13 to 2015-16 (Up to Quarter ending Sept – 2015) | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| Sr. No. | State | 2012- 13 | 2013 – 14 | 2014 - 15 | 2015 – 16 (Quarter ending Sept. – 2015) | FIR Lodged (Nos.) | Court Cases Filed (Nos.) | Vehicle Seized (No.) | Fine realized by State Govt. (Rs. Lakh) |
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar | 0 | n.r. | n. r. | n. r. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.05 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 16592 | 7692 | 9379 | 3931 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1256.720 |
| 3 | Assam | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | Chhattisgarh | 3238 | 3996 | 5040 | 2647 | 2 | 13383 | 1138 | 2644.673 |
| 5 | Goa | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 6 | Gujarat | 6023 | 5447 | 5716 | 2280 | 240 | 27 | 8941 | 41725.21 |
| 7 | Haryana | 3517 | 3589 | 5333 | 2288 | 613 | 0 | 0 | 3105.526 |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 0 | n.r. | n. r. | n. r. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 9 | Jharkhand | 663 | 901 | 1162 | 854 | 1891 | 253 | 1346 | 1977.76 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 6677 | 8509 | 8464 | 4725 | 620 | 539 | 9720 | 7771.50 |
| 11 | Kerala | 4550 | 4448 | 4172 | 1459 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2487.67 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 7169 | 6725 | 8173 | 6941 | 61 | 28830 | 528 | 14670.79 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 42918 | 36476 | 32717 | 13292 | 13 | 0 | 117848 | 14709.03 |
| 14 | Mizoram | 16 | 21 | 26 | n. r. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2.342 |
| 15 | Odisha | 314 | 76 | 104 | 39 | 4 | 4 | 514 | 1225.34 |
| 16 | Punjab | 19 | n.r. | n. r. | n. r. | 74 | 0 | 61 | 45.80 |
| 17 | Rajasthan | 2861 | 2953 | 2945 | 1423 | 2258 | 53 | 4235 | 4342.727 |
| 18 | Tamilnadu | 295 | 1078 | 205 | 25 | 7547 | 1 | 36135 | 11564.649 |
| 19 | Telangana | - | - | 3311 | 3129 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1649.016 |
| 20 | Uttar Pradesh | 3266 | 6777 | 10402 | 4857 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7902.88 |
| 21 | West Bengal | 479 | n.r. | n. r. | 575 | 1132 | 0 | 703 | 0 |
| | Grand Total | | 88689 | 97149 | 48467 | 14458 | 43091 | 181174 | 117081.683 |

n. r. -return not received.