

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3066
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2017

ILLEGAL MINING

3066. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of instances of illegal mining which took place in Gujarat during the last three years;
- (b) whether the accused have been identified for above illegal mining and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether illegal mining is not being curbed in the State despite existence of various regulations; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): As per section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, State Governments have been empowered to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals and for the purposes connected therewith. Prevention and control of illegal mining comes under the administrative and legislative jurisdiction of State Governments.

Based on the quarterly returns on illegal mining submitted by Government of Gujarat to Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) (a subordinate office of the Ministry), the details of instances of illegal mining (both major minerals and minor minerals) reported in the State of Gujarat and action taken thereupon by the Government of Gujarat for the years 2013-14 to 2016-17 (up to March 2017) are given below:

Illegal mining cases					Action taken		
State	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	FIR Lodged (Nos.)	Court Cases Filed (Nos.)	Fine realized by State Govt. (Rs. Lakh)
Gujarat	5447	5716	6499	8325	318	29	13182.89

The Ministry of Mines has taken the initiative to adopt the use of Space Technology through Mining Surveillance System to support State Governments in curbing illegal mining. Further, stringent penal provisions have been provided in the MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 for control of illegal mining.
