

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1998
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.12.2018

ILLEGAL SAND MINING

1998. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of widespread illegal activities of sand mining in the country which have led to death of many law enforcement officials and other Government officials;

(b) if so, details of all deaths of law enforcement officials and other Government officials since 2014, year-wise; and

(c) details of measures that Government has taken to deal with the above issues?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND COAL
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): Sand is a minor mineral, as defined under section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act). Section 15 of the MMDR Act provides that State Governments have been empowered for making rules for regulating the grant of quarry leases, mining leases or other mineral concessions in respect of minor minerals and for purposes connected therewith.

Further, as per section 23C of MMDR Act, 1957 state governments have complete powers to make rules for prevention of illegal mining and for purposes connected therewith. The administration of sand mining is a subject that is completely within the domain of the respective State Governments. Therefore, no data relating to attack/death of the Government officials/law enforcement official is maintained centrally.
