

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2333
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2022

Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation

2333. SHRI ADALA PRABHAKARA REDDY:
SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has considered the request for approving Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation as the Prospective Lessee for 14 Sand Beach Mineral Areas in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated timeline for the said approval; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

- (a)&(b) (i) Yes, Sir. Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has received 17 proposals from Government of Andhra Pradesh for nominating Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) as prospective lessee for Beach Sand Minerals (BSM) bearing areas admeasuring 18,367 Ha. in total.
- (ii) DAE has nominated APMDC as prospective lessee for grant of mining lease for mining BSM in 90.15 Ha Bhimunipatnam Deposit, Visakhapatnam District and 1978.471 Ha Machilipatnam Deposit, Krishna District on 25.03.2021 and 15.04.2021 respectively.

- (iii) Government of Andhra Pradesh vide their communication dated 06.05.2021 addressed to Ministry of Mines, Government of India has forwarded a proposal to accord prior approval under section 5(1) & 6(1) b of MMDR Act, 1957 and Rule 29 of AMCR, 2016 for grant of Mining Lease for Beach Sand Minerals (BSM) as per the provisions of MMDR Act, 1957 and AMCR, 2016.
 - (iv) Further, Ministry of Mines vide their communication dated 16.02.2022 has sought additional information from the Government of Andhra Pradesh, which is yet to be provided by Government of Andhra Pradesh.
 - (v) The processing of remaining proposals has been kept in abeyance on receipt of a letter dated 11.06.2021 from Ministry of Mines in the context of complaints regarding damage to environment, violations of mining laws and clandestine export of Monazite. DAE took up the matter with Government of Andhra Pradesh requesting to investigate the allegations. Based on information provided by Government of Andhra Pradesh, DAE vide its communication dated 03.02.2022 has sought further clarification from Government of Andhra Pradesh, which is yet to be provided by Government of Andhra Pradesh.
- (c) In view of the answers at (a) and (b), answer to question (c) is not applicable.
