

**Need for stringent action to curb illegal mining and construction activities in Raiwala-Bhogpur region of Haridwar district, Uttarakhand- Laid**

**SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (SARAN):** I wish to raise a serious concern regarding the rampant illegal mining and construction activities taking place in the Raiwala-Bhogpur region of Haridwar district, Uttarakhand. The Bhogpur area alone houses 53 of the total 121 stone crushers in Haridwar. As per recent reports, 22 of these units have either had their permits suspended or their leases have expired. Shockingly, 10 stone crushers were found operating within 1 km of the Ganga river in the Raiwala to Bhogpur stretch according to CPCB-violating the Uttarakhand Stone Crusher Policy, 2021, which mandates a minimum 1 km distance from the river. Moreover, mined pits of minor minerals have been reported within the flood zone, suggesting unauthorized extraction and posing grave risks to the Ganga ecosystem. I urge the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to take strict and immediate action to stop these violations and protect the river.