

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:918  
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2007  
SMALL SCALE MINES  
Nandy Shri Amitava

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

- (a) the number of small scale mines operating in the country at present, State-wise;
- (b) the contribution of such small scale mines to National Mineral Output of the country;
- (c) the extent to which such small scale mines provide employment to the local inhabitants in various States; and
- (d) the manner in which the Government proposes to control the poor environmental management and safety conditions rendered by such mining?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a) to (c) : As per Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988, mines are grouped as either Category 'A' or Category 'B' mines. Category 'A' mines are such mines where operations are fully mechanized or where the number of average employment exceeds one hundred and fifty in all or seventy-five in workings below ground, or a mine where any of the mining operations is carried out with the help of heavy machinery. All other mines not coming under this definition are categorized as Category 'B' mines. Category 'B' mines contributed 18% to the total value of mineral production of non fuel, non atomic major minerals in 2005-06 and state-wise details of reporting category 'B' mines and average daily employment are given below:

State    Number of reporting mines    Average daily employment

Andhra Pradesh	305	4762
Assam	2	79
Bihar	6	68
Chhattisgarh	61	2273
Goa	19	925
Gujarat	387	7488
Haryana	1	3
Himachal Pradesh	25	429
Jammu & Kashmir	3	89
Jharkhand	109	2613
Karnataka	196	3932
Kerala	31	643
Madhya Pradesh	231	3994
Maharashtra	76	1579
Meghalaya	4	253
Orissa	137	8754
Rajasthan	228	2896
Sikkim	1	29
Tamil Nadu	149	2485
Uttar Pradesh	18	753
Uttarakhand	30	1059
West Bengal	9	258

Total    2028    45364

(d): The provisions of Mineral Conservation and Development Rules 1988 provide safeguards for protection of environment. As regards safety conditions in mining, as per information made available by Ministry of Labour & Employment the owner, agent and manager of each mine is required to comply with provisions of Mines Act, which is over seen by the officers of Directorate General of Mines Safety, and in case of non compliance, action as per law is taken against the mine's management.

