

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.887**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.07.2014

**MINING MINERAL SAND**

887. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to grant licence to the private sector for mining mineral sand under the Atomic Energy Act;
- (b) if so, whether any applications are pending before the Atomic Energy Commission from the private sector for grant of such licence;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Atomic Energy Commission has changed its policy to grant mining rights to the private sector along the coast of Kollam and Alappuzha districts in Kerala where sand containing prescribed minerals have been found to exist; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

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- (a) No, Sir. The Government of India does not propose to grant licence to the private sector, for mining of the mineral sand, under the Atomic Energy Act. However, for mining of other minerals present in beach sand deposits, prior consent of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) for grant of mineral concessions by the respective State Governments under Section 5 of MMDR Act, 1957 is sought, by Ministry of Mines (MOM). DAE issues "No Objection Certificate" based on the recommendations of Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of DAE, to the MOM and on their recommendation, respective State Governments issue licenses for mining of the minerals present in beach sand deposits.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.
- (d) The grant of mining rights rests with the State Governments. Atomic Energy Commission is not contemplating relaxation of existing provisions in the rules for permitting mining of prescribed minerals by private sector..
- (e) Does not arise in view of (d) above

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