

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1585.
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 28TH JULY, 2021.**

SALT PANS

1585. SHRI RAVIKUMAR D.:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY** be pleased to state:

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Ministry has any plans to lease 17000 acres of salt pan owned by Union Government for other commercial purposes in Tamilnadu and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Ministry has any plans to close salt pans in Marakkanam of Viluppuram District, Tamilnadu and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to setup iodisation plant at Marakkanam and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Ministry has any plans to resume medical camps for workers and educational aid, as well as financial grants for meritorious students of their families; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोम प्रकाश)

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI SOM PARKASH)**

- (a):** No Sir, The salt pan land owned by the Union Government is transferred to central government departments/ state governments and their agencies for public purpose only.
- (b) & (c):** No Sir.
- (d) & (e):** As informed by the Salt Commissioner Organization (SCO), an attached office under Ministry of Commerce & Industry, the implementation of the two activities, namely, organization of health & eye camps for salt workers; and providing financial assistance to meritorious students of salt workers, have been adversely affected in financial year 2020-21 due to Covid-19 pandemic. However, the activities will resume in current financial year and Government will organize two Health camps at Tuticorin, and Marakkanam, Tamil Nadu. Also the applications for grant of rewards to the meritorious students of salt workers during current financial year 2021-22 have been called for.