

DIRECTORATE OF MINES AND GEOLOGY

CALLING ATTENTION

(Shri Jit Arolkar)

“Fear & Anxiety in the minds of the people of Goa due to abandoned open stone quarries filled with rain water. Such dangerous open quarries have claimed numerous lives of locals as well as tourists in the State. These quarries are also gaining popularity among youth as picnic spots. The fatal incidents have raised serious concerns regarding the safety of people. The steps Government intends to take in this regard.”

REPLY

With regards to minor mineral stone quarries where valid quarrying leases are issued, department of mines & geology has instructed all the quarries owners to take necessary safety precautionary measures including fencing of the quarrying pits to ensure that there are no untoward incidents.

With regards to quarries operating without valid permission of this department, 53 such cases are identified and action is initiated under provisions of Goa Minor Mineral Concession Rules 1985 and FIR are also registered for theft of mineral resources. Government has also initiated recovery proceedings against 92 such persons including the land owners in cases where such quarry were operating without permission in private lands.

Direction are issued through the Collectorate to the Mamlatdars to identify such quarries in their respective jurisdictions and to initiate actions under section 33 of the Goa land revenue code 1968.

Government has identified illegal quarrying pits in Tuem village of Pernem taluka and has initiated the process to reclaim the same by refilling of the quarrying pits with bio degradable and non-hazardous waste. Further warning sign boards are erected at such sites in order to caution the public not to venture into activities like swimming at such spots. The same will be replicated

Directions will also be issued to the Police to maintain vigil at such locations where dangerous quarrying pits are identified.

