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Title: Request the government to increase the rate of royalty in case of Iron Ore, Chromite and Bauxite.

**SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK):** Sir, it is a very important matter not only for our State but also for the whole country. It is about the decision that the Central Government is taking with regard to the issue of royalty. The State of Odisha is producing about half of the country's iron ore, besides substantial quantities of chromite, bauxite, limestone and manganese ore. However, the State is being deprived of its reasonable expectation of revenue from such mining. The royalty on these minerals was last revised five years back, on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2014. Even though there is a provision permitting revision of royalty every three years, it has not been done.

The premiums offered by the bidders in cases of mining leases granted through auction are indicative of the jurisdiction for raising the rates of royalty in order to improve the revenue share of the State Government. For non-revision of royalty, the State is being deprived of its legitimate share of revenues from such mining.

I urge upon the Government to enhance the rate of royalty in the case of iron ore, chromite, and bauxite at the earliest. Thank you, Sir.