

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES AND MINERALS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2489  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000  
SICK MINES IN ORISSA  
ANANTA NAYAK

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

- (a) the number of iron ore, manganese and bauxite mines fallen sick in Orissa during the last three years;
- (b) whether some chromite mines have recently been closed down in Orissa;
- (c) if so, the details of those mines;
- (d) whether a large number of workers have been thrown out of employment following the closure of these mines; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide them alternative employment?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS

(SMT RITA VERMA)

(a) There is no provision in the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 for furnishing information by the mine owners on sick mines. However, the number of iron ore, manganese ore and bauxite mines temporarily discontinued in the State of Orissa during the last three years is as follows:

Mineral No. of mines temporarily discontinued  
during last three years.

1. Iron Ore 8

2. Manganese Ore 7

3. Bauxite 1

Total: 16

(b)& (c): As per information available with Indian Bureau of Mines, a subordinate organisation under Department of Mines, no chromite mines have recently been closed down in the State of Orissa. However, five chromite mines have been temporarily discontinued in Orissa.

( d)&(e): The Government has no specific scheme for revival of mines which have been closed or temporarily discontinued or for providing alternative employment to the affected employees. However, where the closure or temporary discontinuance is due to lack of demand, it is felt that steps taken to liberalise the economy and increase in industrial production would result in increasing demand for minerals and to make operations of such mines economical.