

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:326
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2001
EXPORT OF IRON ORE
JAGMEET SINGH BRAR

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that China is procuring Indian iron ore through Japan for the manufacture of steel;
- (b) if so, whether India is importing steel from China which is made of Indian iron ore;
- (c) if so, the constraints in exporting iron ore direct to China as bilateral trade; and
- (d) the quantity and value of steel imported from China during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY)

(a)to(d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.326 TC ANSWERED ON 14.08.2001 TABLE D BY SHRI J S BRAR, MP REGARDING EXPORT OF IRON ORE

(a)&(b): No, Sir. China is importing every year around 70 million tonnes of iron ore, of which only a small portion is of Indian origin. As per industry information, the imported ores are blended with Chinese ore and used for steel making. Further, while a few thousand tonnes of steel is being imported annually by Indian firms from China, it is difficult to ascertain whether steel made of Indian Iron Ore is exported to India.

(c) The main constraint in exporting iron ore to China is that Chinese steel mills do not prefer to sign a long term contract, unlike the Japanese and South Koreans. Instead the Chinese source iron ore supply on spot purchase basis.

(d): The quantity and value of steel imported from China during the last three years was:

Name of the Year Total Steel (Finished) Value (Rs. In crores)
country ('000 tonnes)

China	1998-99	11.3	12.88
-do-	1999-00	7.9	13.50
-do-	2000-01	4.5	9.11