

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2291
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2002
CLOSURE OF CHROMITE MINES
ANANTA NAYAK

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of chromite mines in Orissa and the estimated number of workforce in these mines, location-wise;
- (b) whether some of these chromite mines have either been closed down or facing the closure;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to stop the closure of these mines and thereby stopping the throwing away of workers from employment?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI)

(a) to (d): As per information received from Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a subordinate office of Department of Mines, there are 21 chromite mines in Orissa and the estimated number of workforce in these mines is 5932. District-wise distribution of working and non-working mines and their workforce is given below:-

| District | Number of Chromite mines | Estimated number of workforce |
|-----------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | working | non-working |
| Dhenkanal | 02 | 01 545 |
| Jajpur | 13 | Nil 4,602 |
| Keonjhar | 04 | 01 785 |
| Total | 19 | 02 5,932 |

The mines have been reported to be non-working due to orders of Forest authorities and / or labour problems. However, no notice of abandonment of any of these mines have been received by the Indian Bureau of Mines.