

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:984

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2003

SHORTAGE OF IRON ORE

ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;BHASKAR RAO PATIL;CHARAN DAS MAHANT;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether sponge iron units are facing shortage of iron ore resulting in adverse impact on industry;

(b) if so, whether the Government have recently decided to formulate a steel policy to make available iron ore for sponge iron units in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY)

(a) to (c) As per available information there is no reported shortage of iron ore in the country. However, the industry association for sponge iron units has been representing to the Ministry of Steel with respect to various problems faced by them including problems relating to both supply and price of sponge iron grade iron ore. To look into iron ore related issues pertaining to sponge iron industry, the Government has constituted a Committee comprising of representatives from the industry association, Ministry of Mines, Governments of Orissa & Jharkhand and public sector iron ore mining companies.