

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2117
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2003
HATTI GOLD MINES
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Gold ore after extraction of Gold which amounts to about 1 crore tonnes is lying at Hatti Gold Mines in Karnataka;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to use this gold ore for agricultural purposes; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken by the Union Government to dispose of the Gold ore and the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS)

(a & b) The Hatti Gold Mines Limited (HGML) Company is an undertaking of the Government of Karnataka. According to information provided by the Company and the Indian Bureau of Mines, after recovery of gold from gold bearing rock, the waste material i.e. tailing is disposed of in a separate tailing dump yard. The amount of such tailing material lying at HGML is about 80 lakh tonnes. The tailings lying at HGML contain about 0.3 to 0.35 PPM of gold. With the present know-how, recovery of gold from this tailing material is not considered economical.

(c & d) HGML has signed an MOU with University of Agricultural Science, Dharwar for carrying out research on the use of Gold Ore Tailings for agricultural purposes. The research has commenced in April, 2003 and the period of research is for 3 years.