

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:60
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2007
SUPPLY OF IRON ORE BY NMDC
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of supply of iron ore to small scale industries by the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) during the last three years;
- (b) whether the supply of iron ore being made by NMDC to small scale industries has been discontinued;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take any corrective measures keeping in view the difficulties being faced by iron ore based small scale industries; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS)

(a) Supply of iron ore by NMDC is not based on a gradation of small or large scale industry. NMDC has been offering iron ore from Bailadila to various Chhattisgarh based Sponge/Pig iron units based on recommendations of State Investment Promotion Board (SIPB), Government of Chhattisgarh. A few of these units may be falling under the category of small scale industries as well.

The quantity lifted by Chhattisgarh based Sponge/Pig iron units during the last three years is as follows:

S. No.	Year	Quantity lifted (in lakh tonnes)
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- | | | |
|----|---------|------|
| 1. | 2003-04 | 0.65 |
| 2. | 2004-05 | 1.4 |
| 3. | 2005-06 | 8.5 |

(b) No, Sir. During 2006-07, a quantity of 20 lakh tonnes has been offered to Chhattisgarh based units, against which, about 14 lakh tonnes has been lifted till Jan. 2007.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above

(d)&(e): The sale of iron ore by NMDC is a commercial decision of the company, which is taken, based on the availability of iron ore and its prior supply commitments.