

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:476

ANSWERED ON:14.08.2007

EXPORT OF IRON ORE

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir

**Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:**

- (a) the quantum of iron -ore exported from the country as on date , year-wise;
- (b) whether the Government is reconsidering the export policy in respect of iron ore for keeping its reserve safe in the interest of the nation; (
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether India has sufficient reserves of iron;
- (f) If so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the details of assessment regarding difference between import and export of iron ore for the last three years, year-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

(a) As per information given by Department of Commerce, iron ore export during last three years is given below:

Year    Quantity (in Million Metric tonnes)

2004-05	78.14
2005-06	89.27
2006-07	93.11

(b) to (d): Export of minerals in India continues to be guided by the EXIM Policy notified by Government. This policy regulates and promotes judicious use of iron ore for domestic purpose and export of surplus quantity. A high level committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member Planning Commission, took up export of iron ore as one of the issues, not specifically included in its Terms of Reference, whose resolution was considered crucial for stimulating investment and technology flows into the mining sector. The Government had also considered the issue of restricting iron ore exports in view of domestic demand, taking into account the employment and investment concerns of the mining industry.

(e) & (f): As per available information, India has sufficient resources of iron ore, estimated at 25.25 billion tonnes, which continues to increase. Reserves, which are a function of detailed exploration, are estimated at 7.21 billion tonnes.

(g): The difference between export and import of iron ore for the last three years are as under:

(Quantity in Million Metric Tonnes)

Year    Export    Import    Difference

2004-05	78.14	0.49	77.65
2005-06	89.27	0.61	88.66
2006-07	93.11	0.26	92.85

(Provisional)                      (April -  
December, 2006)