

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1707
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2005
PRODUCTION OF IRON ORE
Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has decided to take several measures to ramp up production of iron ore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether SAIL has also decided to develop new mining blocks and also to augment loading facilities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the extent to which such steps are going to improve production of iron ore in SAIL plants?

Answer

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) & (b): Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has planned to increase iron ore production from existing mines and develop new mining blocks to meet its future requirements. SAIL has taken several measures to augment production of iron ore of all the mines which includes steps for regular replacement of aged/uneconomical equipment, timely and proper maintenance of equipment and machineries. Besides steps are also being taken to increase the production capacity at Bolani Mines from 3 MTPA to 5 MTPA by 2007-08.

(c) & (d): To develop new mining blocks and also to augment loading facilities at Iron Ore Mines, SAIL has taken the following projects :

i) In view of the depleting reserve of present operating mining blocks at Meghahataburu, the adjacent Central Block deposit is being developed (expected by 2008-09) to ensure continuity in production at the present level of around 4 MTPA.

ii) In view of the depleting reserve of present operating mining blocks at Kiriburu the adjacent South Block deposit is being developed (expected by 2008-09) to ensure continuity in production at the present level of around 4 MTPA.

iii) Taldih Block within Barsua-Kalta-Taldih lease hold has been planned to be developed so as to produce 2 MTPA from this area by 2008-09.

iv) A new mechanized mine of around 2 MTPA capacity shall be developed at the reserve area within the Thakurani- a block in Keonjhar district of Orissa by 2009-10.

v) Bhilai Steel Plant has decided to develop a new mine at Rowghat in Kanker/Bastar districts of Chhattisgarh.

Action are being taken to obtain necessary clearances from the concerned State Government and Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India for implementation of these projects.

(e) With implementation of the steps mentioned above the production of iron ore from the mines of SAIL is expected to increase to around 17 MT per annum by 2009-10 from the present level of around 13 MTPA.