

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:671  
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010  
RESERVES OF IRON ORE  
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) the details of iron-ore reserves under the control of the Government and the private sector, separately, State-wise;
- (b) whether the small and medium iron ore manufacturers are facing problems in view of futures trade in steel;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the problems of the small and medium iron-ore manufacturers in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

- (a): As per available information, the estimated reserves of iron ore in public leasehold and private sector leasehold areas as on 01-04-2005 are 5484.81 and 3976.11 million tonnes respectively. State-wise information on reserves/resources of iron ore is given in the Indian Minerals Year Book, published by the Indian Bureau of Mines. A copy of this book has been supplied to the Parliament Library.
- (b) to (d): No reports on problems of small and medium iron ore miners due to future trade in the steel sector have come to the notice of the Government. However, the National Mineral Policy 2008 enunciates that efforts would be made to grant mineral concessions to consortia of small scale miners so that such clusters of small deposits will enable them to reap the benefits of economies of scale.