

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1573  
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2010  
PRODUCTION OF COPPER  
Sivasami Shri C.

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

- (a) the number of mining companies engaged in extraction of copper in the country;
- (b) the estimated quantum of copper production alongwith its consumption in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to conserve the mineral resources to meet the current and future domestic demand?

**Answer**

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

(a): Hindustan Copper Limited, a public sector undertaking, is the only mining company engaged in extraction of Copper in the country.

(b): State-wise copper production is not maintained centrally since copper is finished product. Quantum of copper production (in the form of copper cathode) in the organized sector during each of the last three years and the current year is as under:-

(Unit: Tonnes)

S.No.	Name of the Company	Installed Capacity	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
		(Annual)		(Up to May, 2010)		

1.	Hindustan Copper Ltd	49,500	44,734	30,036	17,516	2061
2.	Hindalco Industries Ltd	5,00,000	3,23,900	2,97,800	3,33,300	45,725
3.	Sterlite Industries (India) Ltd	4,00,000	3,39,294	3,12,833	3,34,202	54,013
4.	Jhagadia Copper Ltd	50,000	10,000	11,100	3,300	Nil
Total		999500	717928	651769	688318	101799

Consumption of copper in the country during each of the last three years and the current year (Estimated) is as under:-

Year Consumption  
(in thousand tonnes)

2007 475  
2008 500  
2009 525  
2010 550

(c): Hindustan Copper Limited has prepared a road map for enhancing its mine production by optimal mining from current level of 3.15 million tonne per annum to 12 million tonne per annum in the next 7 to 8 years by expansion of Khetri Copper Mines in the State of Rajasthan, expansion of Maljkhand Mine in the State of Madhya Pradesh by developing underground mines after the end of useful life of existing open-cast mines. Apart from this HCL has planned for integrated development of Singhbhum Copper Belt Mines at Ghatsila in the State of Jharkhand and green field exploration within the country.