

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2548  
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2010  
CHROMITE DEPOSITS  
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

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

- (a) the number of mining companies engaged in chromite mining activities in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of chromite reserves/deposits/resources available and the estimated production of chromite during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and grade-wise;
- (c) the estimated quantum of domestic consumption and export of chromite during the said period, grade-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to conserve and protect the chromite ore in the country?

**Answer**

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

(a): As per the information available upto 2008-09, out of the 11 companies engaged in chromite mining activities in the country, one is in the State of Karnataka and ten companies are in the State of Orissa.

(b): As per available information, the total reserves of Chromite as on 1.4.2005 are placed at 213 million tonnes. State-wise production of chromite is given below:

State	Grade	Grade Name	(Quantity in tonnes)		
			2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
		(provi- sional)	(provi- sional)	(provi- sional)	

Karnataka	2	30% to 40% Cr203 Lumps	4172	2801	6227
	4	47% to 52% Cr203 Lumps	432	106	0
	5	Below 30% Cr203 Fines	0		
	6	30% to 40% Cr203 Fines	153	338	208
	7	Above 40% to below 47% Cr203 Fines	0		
	8	47% to 52% Cr203 Fines	789	758	10
	9	Concentrates	50	197	12
	10	52% Cr203 and above lumps	0	0	
		Total	9488	4200	6457

Maharashtra 2 30% to 40% Cr203 Lumps - - 75

Orissa	2	30% to 40% Cr203 Lumps	203008	172878	153532
	4	47% to 52% Cr203 Lumps	124518	115554	113770
	5	Below 30% Cr203 Fines	-	-	0
	6	30% to 40% Cr203 Fines	1408584	1268086	1259709
	8	47% to 52% Cr203 Fines	1677455	1292931	844047
	9	Concentrates	752882	565497	552417
	10	52% Cr203 and above lumps	9305	3637	0
	11	52% Cr203 and above Fines	687607	557799	482850
		Total	4863359	3976342	3406335
		Total	4872847	3980582	3412867

(c): As per available information the domestic consumption of chromite in the year 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09 was 1784800, 1724700 and 1754300 tonnes (provisional) respectively. Quantity of export of chromite for this period is given below:

Quantity in tonne			
2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (provisional)	

Chromite Total	1203060	906575	1899028
Chrome ore other	418308	45360	145516
Chrome ore concentrates	736237	860157	1549199
Chrome ore lumps	48515	1058	204313

(d): The Government has announced the National Mineral Policy, 2008, which seeks to develop a sustainable framework for optimum utilisation of the country's natural mineral resources. The Policy enunciates that Conservation of minerals shall be construed not in the restrictive sense of abstinence from consumption or preservation for use in the distant future but as a positive concept leading to augmentation of reserve base through improvement in mining methods, beneficiation and utilisation of low grade ore and rejects and recovery of associated minerals. The Government is according prior approvals for grant of concessions for mineral chromite in accordance with the policy.