

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:85
ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010
EXPLOITATION OF BAUXITE
Bhagat Shri Sudarshan

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether excessive exploitation of bauxite in the country including Jharkhand has led to decrease in bauxite reserves;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the policies formulated to check such exploitation of bauxite in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As per information available with the Indian Bureau of Mines, as on 1.4.2005 the all India resources of bauxite are estimated at 3289 million tonnes, out of which 899 million tonnes are reserves. Out of 3289 million tonnes of the total bauxite resources, 118 million tonnes (4%) is located in Jharkhand . Out of the total production of the 14 million tonnes bauxite in the country, Jharkhand reported a production of 1.7 millions tonnes in 2009-10.

Based on the current level of production and resources estimated, the life index of bauxite resources is estimated at more than 140 years. It is likely that with further exploration in the unexplored areas and development of technology to use low grade minerals, bauxite reserves may increase further.

(c): Does not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.