

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:903
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011
IRON ORE FINES
Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the iron ore fines are sold without auctioning resulting into the loss of our natural resources;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to conduct a high level enquiry against mines owners and public sector units in order to check the loss of natural resources;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the quantity of iron ore fines produced in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Jharkhand?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a): State Governments as the owners of minerals grant mineral concession, including mining leases, and in case of minerals in First Schedule to the Mines and Minerals Development and Regulation Act, 1957 (MMDR Act), which includes iron ore, prior approval of the Central Government is necessary before lease deeds are entered by the State Government with the lessee. As per the model Mining lease given in Form K in the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960, a lessee is entitled to enter in the lease area and to search for mine, bore, dig, drill for, win, work, dress, process, convert, carry away and dispose of minerals in the lease, after payment of royalty as per Section 9 of the MMDR Act. The MMDR Act or Rules framed thereunder does not provide for any mode or procedure for selling of minerals, including iron ore fines in any particular manner.

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

(d): State-wise production of Iron ore fines in the country for the last three years and the current year is given below:

(unit: `000' tonnes)

STATE	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
	(upto Dec. 2010)			
ANDHRA PRADESH	3978	5238	2759	267
CHHATTISGARH	17965	18925	14960	11431
GOA (including concentrates)	24796	25670	30719	16782
JHARKHAND	10983	11471	12296	9431
KARNATAKA	27458	28310	27016	18648
MADHYA PRADESH	1954	325	977	858
MAHARASHTRA	315	119	103	181
ORISSA	27947	30502	38085	28833
TOTAL:	115396	120560	126915	86431