

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4122

ANSWERED ON:26.08.2011

INVESTMENT IN HAJIGAK IRON ORE MINE IN AFGHANISTAN

Raghavan Shri M. K.

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to invest in the Hajigak iron ore mine in Afghanistan;
- (b) if so, the details of the investment;
- (c) the progress made in this regard alongwith its present status; and
- (d) the safety measures taken by the Government before initialization of the said project?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The Government of Afghanistan had invited offers for commercial exploitation of Hajigak Iron Ore Deposit through the process of competitive bidding. The Ministry of Mines convened a meeting of Indian mining companies, both private and public sector, on 06.01.2011 and requested them to participate in the Expression of Interest (EOI). The Ministry of Steel thereafter held a series of meetings to address the concerns expressed by the companies. The last date for bidding is 4th September, 2011. The final decision of participation in the competitive bidding process, is a commercial decision of the individual companies.