

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3874
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2011
ILLEGAL EXPORT OF IRON ORE
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Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been incidents of illegal export of iron ore from the country;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof alongwith the number of such incidents reported and consignment seized by the Government during the last three years and till date;
- (c) whether the Government has any monitoring mechanism to prevent illegal export of iron ore from the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reaction of the Government to put in place a proper monitoring mechanism and regulator to check such illegal export alongwith imposition of penalty on such export?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) : Some incidents of illegal mining have been reported to the Central Government and these have been sent to State Governments to take suitable action. As per available information, the Government has not seized any consignment of iron ore. However, Karnataka State Forest Department had seized about 8,05,991.083 metric tonnes of ore without valid permits. The seized material was kept at the disposal of Port Conservator, Belikere Port for safe custody. However, on the basis of a report that the seized material has been exported illegally, the Karnataka State Forest Department investigated the matter, which revealed that 6.00 lakh metric tonnes of seized material has been illegally exported. The State Government has initiated stringent action against the culprits.

(c) to (e) : The Government has amended Rule 45 of the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 vide notification G. S. R. 75(E) dated 9.2.2011 making it mandatory for all miners, traders, stockists, exporters and end-users to register with the Indian Bureau of Mines and report on movement of minerals to Indian Bureau of Mines and State Government. Such end-to-end accounting will reduce the scope for transportation illegally mined minerals, including export of iron ore.