

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2049

ANSWERED ON:26.03.2012

IRON ORE SUPPLY BY NMDC

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

- (a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) is the sole supplier of iron ore to all the ore-based industries in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this ore supply by NMDC is sufficient to meet the demand of the indigenous industries;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure sufficient supply of iron ore to all indigenous industries?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a)&(b): No, Madam. NMDC Ltd. produced 25.2 million tonnes of iron ore during 2010-11, which is only about 12% of the total estimated iron ore production of 208.11 million tonnes in the country.

(c)&(d): The consumption of iron ore by the domestic industries during 2010-11 was estimated at 111.4 million tonnes, whereas the total production of iron ore in the country during 2010-11 was estimated as 208.11 million tonnes. NMDC supplied 23.75 million tonnes of iron ore during 2010-11 to domestic industries, which constitutes about 21% of estimated consumption of iron ore by the domestic industries. The remaining requirement of iron ore by the domestic industry was either sourced from captive iron ore mines or was supplied by other iron ore producers.

(e) Iron ore, being in deregulated sector, its supply is sourced by the individual companies based on their individual requirement. However, NMDC is taking steps to increase its production of iron ore by opening up new iron ore mines and expanding the capacity of existing iron ore mines.