

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2128  
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013  
UNUSED IRON ORE FINES AT GUA MINES  
Annayagari Shri Sai Prathap

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

- (a) whether the Gua iron ore mines situated in Jharkhand has been planning to enhance its production capacity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of the targets fixed for production enhancement;
- (c) whether any action plan has been envisaged for enhancement of production;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the quantum of outlay earmarked for inducing new machinery and technology;
- (e) whether a large portion of iron ore fines mined earlier have been lying unused at Gua iron ores mines for years; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the plan chalked out by the Government to make use of the lying iron ore fines at the earliest?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has planned to enhance production capacity of Gua iron ore mine to 10 MTPA from the existing level of 2.4 MTPA.

(c)&(d): Yes, Madam. The proposal for capacity expansion and setting up of 12.5 MTPA Beneficiation and 4 MTPA Pellet Plant was approved 'in-principle' by SAIL Board at a cost of Rs. 2952 crore with an implementation schedule of 36 months. Tender for expansion of Gua mine along with setting up of Beneficiation Plant (10 MTPA) and Pellet Plant

(4 MTPA) is in advance stage of finalization. SAIL is also in the process of obtaining necessary approvals and statutory clearances for the project.

(e)&(f): Yes, Madam. Gua mine started operations in 1919 and was a captive mine of IISCO (till its merger into SAIL in 2006). Gua mine used to supply iron ore to IISCO Steel Plant at Burnpur. Due to non availability of sinter making facility at Burnpur, the fines generated in the due course of production got accumulated in the mine and remained unutilized. After merger of IISCO into SAIL there is no addition of fines to the dump as freshly generated fines from the mining process is being consumed in other steel plants of SAIL. Installation of Beneficiation and Pellet Plant at Gua will enable utilization of fines dumped over the years.