

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3526  
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014  
DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF COPPER  
Maadam Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai

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

- (a) whether there is any shortage in production of copper as compared to its demand;
- (b) if so, the details of the demand and supply position of copper in the country during each of the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to bridge the gap between demand and supply of copper by boosting its production?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

(a): India is deficit in copper ore production and imports copper ore concentrate. This copper ore concentrate is used for production of refined copper/ copper metal. The refining capacity is more than the domestic consumption requirements.

(b) In regards to production of copper ore, the domestic production meets only 4% of the country's demand. The demand and supply position of refined copper/copper metal in the country during each of the last three years and the current year is given below:-

S.No. Year Demand(Lakh Tonne) Production (lakh Tonne)

|   |                                  |      |      |
|---|----------------------------------|------|------|
| 1 | 2014-15                          | 3.75 | 4.97 |
|   | (April- Nov. '14<br>Provisional) |      |      |
| 2 | 2013-14                          | 5.30 | 6.46 |
| 3 | 2012-13                          | 6.10 | 6.92 |
| 4 | 2011-12                          | 5.98 | 6.84 |

(c) Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) a Public Sector Enterprises under the Ministry of Mines is the only company in India engaged in the Mining of copper ore with Mines located at Khetri Copper Complex, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Indian Copper Complex, Jharkhand. The HCL has prepared Mine Expansion Plan for enhancing its mine production from current level of 3.4 Million Tonne of ore per annum to 12.4 Million Tonne per annum in the next five years and is making efforts in this regard.