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Title: Need to simplify the procedure for getting permission to mine iron ore from agricultural land in Bellary, Karnataka.

SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY (BELLARY): I would like to mention that farmers in Karnataka, especially in Bellary, are facing great difficulties to lead their lives as they are not able to produce crops due to drought for last more than five years and also due to the absence of canal system. In some drought affected/dry areas, farmers are getting small quantity of iron ore in agricultural land within 3 to 5 feet and they are doing in manually. But procedure for getting permission for this mining is very lengthy. They have to seek permission from State Government first and then from Central Government. There is an urgent need to simplify the procedure for getting permission so that farmers can earn their livelihood. Farmers are willing to pay any royalty fixed by Government for this purpose.

I urge upon the Government to consider simplification of procedure for getting permission keeping in view of problems being faced by farmers.