

Illegal iron ore mining in Odisha

†2572. SHRI FAGGAN SINGH KULASTE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received complaints that illegal iron ore mining is being carried out on a large scale in Odisha in gross contravention of the MMRD Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether many companies and big contractors are engaged in contravening Section 37 of the MMRD Act by carrying out illegal iron ore mining; and

(d) if so, details of the steps taken by Government to stop illegal mining in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Instances of illegal mining have been reported in the State of Odisha. As per section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, the State Governments have been empowered to make rules for preventing illegal mining. Since the State Governments deal with cases of illegal mining therefore specific details are not centrally maintained in the Ministry. However, as per available information with Indian Bureau of Mines from the State Government of Odisha, the State Government of Odisha has detected 1281 cases of illegal mining for all minerals including minor minerals since 2009-10 till June, 2012. The State Government of Odisha has filed 36 court cases and realized fine of Rs. 4339.34 lakhs in the said cases of illegal mining.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Mineral deposits in Odisha

2573. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of iron ore, chrome, manganese and coal deposits in Odisha and the exploitation thereof per annum;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that the way these minerals are being exploited all mining reserves may be exhausted within 200 years; and

(c) whether Government has made any prospective plan and assessment regarding the mining reserves and their exploitation and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Details of quantum of iron ore, chrome, manganese and coal deposits in Odisha as given below:—

Mineral	Deposit ('000 Tonnes)
Iron ore	5930431
Chrome	190021
Manganese	190047
Coal	71447410

(Source: Ministry of Coal and Indian Bureau of Mines)

Details of quantum of exploitation of iron ore, chrome, manganese and coal in Odisha during 2009-10 to 2011-12:—

Mineral	Production ('000 Tonnes)		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12(P)
Iron ore	80896	76128	67013
Chrome	3419	4317	3754
Manganese	605	656	566
Coal*	104079	100280	103118

(Source: Ministry of Coal and Indian Bureau of Mines)

*All the production data are actual.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

Use of heavy earth moving machinery in mining

2574. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mines in the country where use of heavy earth moving machinery of high wall mines for extraction is in prevalence;