

Scaling down of iron ore mines for environmental clearance

*250. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) was forced to scale down operation of iron ore mines in Odisha and Jharkhand due to holding up of environmental clearances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this would trigger raw material scarcity for its Bokaro Plant in Jharkhand and integrated steel plant in Burnpur in West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) and (b) Non availability of environmental clearances has resulted in closure of SAIL's Sukri Latur mine since March, 2009, Gua mine since June, 2011, intermittent closure of Bolani mines in the year 2011-12 and 2012-13 for about 90 days and Dhobil mine for five months.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Although closure of above mines created some shortfall of iron ore for SAIL plants in later half of 2011-12, this was addressed by conversion of iron ore fines from SAIL mines into pellets through Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL). Further, the situation has been normalized by scaling up production in other mines and opening of Bolani mine.

Liability of suppliers in nuclear accidents

*251. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Nuclear Liability Act, 2010, nuclear suppliers are not liable to pay more than the cost of supplied equipments as damage in case of nuclear accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons and the rationale therefor;

(d) whether Government would amend this provision;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Section 4 of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 channels the liability for nuclear damage to the operator of the nuclear installation. The operator of the nuclear installation, after paying the compensation for nuclear damage, shall have a right of recourse against the supplier in accordance with Section 17 of the said Act. The supplier has no liability to pay compensation for nuclear damage in the first instance to the victims of a nuclear incident.

(c) Under the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 the liability of the operator is strict and based on the principle of no-fault liability with the underlying objective to provide for prompt compensation to the victims of a nuclear incident.

- (d) There is no such proposal at present.
- (e) Does not arise in view of answer to (d).
- (f) Covered under answer to (c).

Projects sanctioned and completed under JNNURM

*252. SHRI JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of total projects sanctioned and completed under the Urban Infrastructure and Governance component of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) across different States in the country;

(b) whether there are wide gaps between the sanctioned and completed projects;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by the Ministry to ensure efficient and timely completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Under Urban Infrastructure and Governance (UIG) Sub-Mission of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), 551 projects have been approved across different States in the country, out of which 184 projects have been reported physically complete.