

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2812
FOR ANSWER ON 12/12/2011

MINES ON LEASE TO SAIL PLANTS

2812. SHRI KACHHADIA NARANBHAI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bokaro Steel Plant under Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have regularly applied for acquiring the iron ore mines on lease;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by SAIL to ensure continuous lease of mining rights for its plant thereby ensuring regular supply of iron ore to these plants; and
- (d) whether the Government has recommended to the State Governments having huge iron ore reserves for granting the mining lease rights to the SAIL plants?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a)&(b): No, Madam.

(c) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) is operating nine iron ore mines with 26 leases in the States of Jharkhand, Odisha and Chattisgarh. SAIL is continuously pursuing the matter for renewal of the concerned leases with respective State Governments and with Central Government. The other measures taken by SAIL for ensuring regular supply of iron ore to its steel plants include expanding production capacity of existing mines, development of new mines and pursuing with State Governments for allocation of new deposits.

(d) Yes, Madam. Ministry of Steel has been continuously pursuing the matter of allocation and renewal of mines with concerned State Governments. Recently, on 21.10.2011, Ministry of Mines, Government of India has reserved an iron ore area of 140 ha for 20 years in North Eastern Block Range, Sandur Taluk, Bellary District of Karnataka for undertaking prospecting or mining operations through Visvesvarya Iron and Steel Plant of SAIL.
