

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STEEL

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO.\*250**  
FOR ANSWER ON 14/03/2013

**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?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL

(SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA)

(a)to(d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

\*\*\*\*\*

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF THE  
RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.\*250 FOR ANSWER ON  
14/03/2013 TABLED BY SHRI S. THANGAVELU, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
REGARDING SCALING DOWN OF IRON ORE MINES FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE**

---

(a)&(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)&(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.

\*\*\*\*\*