

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF STEEL

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1382**  
FOR ANSWER ON 09/03/2016

**IRON ORE MINES IN CHHATTISGARH**

1382. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to extract iron ore from Raoghat mines in Antagarh district of Chhattisgarh;
- (b) what is the likely gain of revenue from extraction of iron ore from these mines;
- (c) how much forest land is required to be cleared and how much needs to be acquired to build all necessary infrastructure including for mine extraction, townships, railway line, etc.;
- (d) the details of progress of land acquisition process; and
- (e) whether Gram Sabha consent from all affected villages under the Forest Rights Act has been taken, if so, the village-wise details?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) In order to extract iron ore from Block 'F' of the Rowghat Mines located in Narayanpur & Kanker district of Chhattisgarh, a large number of pre-project activities are required to be completed by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). In order to implement the Rowghat project, environmental and forestry clearance have been obtained by SAIL. The Mining Lease in favour of SAIL/Bhilai Steel Plant has been obtained. Approval for 2.5 million cubic meters of water per year for the project has been obtained from the State Government. SAIL has also obtained the sanction for 10000 KVA EHT power supply on 132 KV for construction purpose of the project from Chhattisgarh State Power Distribution Company Limited. The requisite charges for forest clearance, mining lease, allocation of water by State Government and construction of power supply line & sub-station have already been deposited by SAIL. Two battalions each of Border Security Force and CRPF for sanitizing the area, providing security to the mine peripheral area, facilitating security and safe execution of construction of the rail line from Dalli-Rajhara to Rowghat have been sanctioned and posted. Permanent barracks are being constructed at 21 locations for paramilitary forces being deployed for protection of Rowghat mines and the Dalli-Rajhara Rowghat rail link project. 1950 trees out of the 7000 required to be felled for construction of seven kilometer (km) road from the foothills to hill top in the area for accessing the iron ore deposits have been cut and three km of murum road has been constructed.

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(b) The approximate revenue expected to be generated by the Central and State Government would be around ` 35.17 crore per million tonne of iron ore extracted from the Rowghat mines towards royalty, cess, District Mineral Fund and National Mineral Exploration Trust.

(c)&(d): 883.22 Hectare (Ha) of forest land is required for different mining and allied activities of the Rowghat project for which stage-II forest clearance for diversion of forest land has already been obtained by SAIL. Besides this, SAIL has also applied for 45 Ha of government land to develop a township at Antagarh and the state government has offered 1 acre of government land for guest house at Narayanpur.

(e) The Guidelines and Procedures for obtaining certificate under Forest Rights Act (FRA) were issued by the Union Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF) on 30.07.2009. However, the in-principle approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act for the project was granted prior to issuance of the above notification in November, 2008. Therefore, 'Gram Sabha' consent under FRA is not applicable for the project.

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