

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STEEL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.450
FOR ANSWER ON 27/04/2016

**ALLOCATION OF ADEQUATE IRON ORE MINES TO
VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT**

450. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received any request from Andhra Pradesh Government to allocate adequate iron ore mines to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;
- (b) if so, the response of Government thereto; and
- (c) if not, whether the Centre will consider *suo-moto* allocation of iron ore mines to Vizag plant to meet its demand?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

- (a) As informed by Ministry of Mines no proposal has been received from Andhra Pradesh Government to allocate adequate iron ore mines to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) As per Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, as amended by the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2015, the State Governments have been empowered to grant mining leases through the method of auction under Section 10A or through the reservation route under section 17A (2A) of the Act. Therefore, allocation of new mining lease is to be regulated as per the provisions laid down in the amendment Act.
