

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STEEL
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 24.07.2009
ANSWERED ON
EXPORT OF IRON ORE .

2415

Shri Motilal Vora

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE STEEL be pleased to state :-

- (a) the quantity of iron-ore in metric tonnes required for domestic steel industries yearly in the country;
- (b) whether steel plants established in Public Sector Undertaking are facing shortage of iron-ore frequently;
- (c) the reasons for export of iron-ore in large quantity to other countries without considering requirements in our country;
- (d) whether Bhilai Steel Plant situated in Chhattisgarh has a deposit of iron-ore only for next five years in Dalli Rajhara mines; and
- (e) whether Government is considering to impose ban on export of iron-ore?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE

(SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP) IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL

(a)The quantity of iron ore consumed by domestic iron & steel industries during the last three years is given below:

(Quantity in Million Tonnes)

Year Quantity of iron ore consumed

2006-07

68.5

2007-08

85#

2008-09

87#

#Estimated by Ministry of Steel

(b)SAIL and RINL are two steel plants established in the public sector. SAIL operates 9 captive iron ore mines situated in the states of Jharkhand, Orissa & Chhattisgarh to meet its iron ore requirement. RINL has no captive iron ore mine and its requirement of iron ore is mainly fulfilled by NMDC, a mining PSU under Ministry of Steel. NMDC is giving due priority to RINL in supply of iron ore. Ministry of Steel has also given instructions to NMDC to give priority to RINL in supply of iron ore.

(c)The production of iron ore in the country is more than double its domestic consumption and therefore, iron ore is exported from the country. The production, export and domestic consumption of iron ore during last three years is given below:

(Quantity in Million tonnes)

Year Production Export Domestic consumption

2006-07 180.92 93.79 68.5

2007-08 206.45 104.27 85#

2008-09 227.64 105.86 87#

Source: For Production & Consumption- IBM, Ministry of Mines; For Export, MMTC, Department of Commerce.

Estimated by Ministry of Steel

(d)Yes, Sir. The balance reserve in existing iron ore mines located at Dalli -Rajhara can meet requirements of Bhilai Steel Plant (BSP) for next 5-6 years only. In order to meet iron ore requirement of BSP, a new mine at Rowghat is planned to be developed as replacement of existing mines and various statutory clearances for opening the Rowghat mine are being taken.

(e)No, Sir.