

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF STEEL**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 27.11.2009**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**IRON ORE MINES IN KARNATAKA .**

1051

Dr. Prabha Thakur

Will the Minister of COALCOALSTEEL be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether iron-ore mines project in Chikmagalur district of Karnataka has been closed;
- (b) if so, since when this project has been closed;
- (c) the reasons therefor and the number of people in that region who have become unemployed;
- (d) whether mining activity is likely to be restarted in this mine; and
- (e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL

(SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. Consequent upon the verdict of Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Kudremukh iron ore mining project located in Chikmagalur district in Karnataka has been stopped with effect from 1.1.2006. This was earlier being operated in the name of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited, now renamed as KIOCL Ltd. Around 1300 direct employees and around 3,500 indirect employees have been affected by closure of the mining operations.

(d) & (e): Restarting of the mining activities cannot be undertaken without specific clearance from the Hon'ble Supreme Court, hence no specific time frame can be fixed for reopening of the mine.