

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5565
ANSWERED ON 06.04.2022

AVAILABILITY OF MINERALS FOR STEEL PLANT

5565. SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:
DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI:

Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the request of Andhra Pradesh to reserve iron ore mineral areas for the Integrated Steel Plant at YSR Kadapa District is permitted by extant legal framework;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has suggested the auction route for securing mineral supply for the project; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) to (c): Ministry of Mines had received three proposals from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh for reservation of area in respect of M/s Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation (APMDC) under section 17A(2) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 for mineral iron ore in Ananthapuram district in Andhra Pradesh viz. 27.12 hectares, 19.481 hectares and 6.5 hectares. As per the provisions of Section 17A of the Act, the Central Government may reserve any area not already held under any prospecting licence or mining lease.

On examination of these proposals, it was observed that the said areas related to the mines whose previous leases have been lapsed under the provisions of Section 8A(6) of the MMDR Act, 1957 and as per the MMDR Act, 1957 such areas are to be put up for auction.

Accordingly, the proposals were returned to the State Government on 30.03.2021 with the advice to notify the subject areas for auction.
