

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES AND MINERALS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:393
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2000
SHORTAGE OF LEAD AND ZINC
SANJAY PASWAN

Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any shortage of lead and zinc in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of demand and supply of lead and zinc during each of the last three years;
- (c) the details of major consumer industries of lead and zinc in the country;
- (d) the total consumption of lead and zinc by these industries during each of the last three years;
- (e) whether the Government propose to import lead and zinc scrap;
- (f) if so, whether the Government are aware that import of lead and zinc is not environmentally viable; and (g) if so, the reasons for such imports?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS

(SMT. RITA VERMA)

- (a) Yes, Sir. There is shortage of lead and zinc produced in the country.
- (b) to (d) The details of supply of lead and zinc including imports during each of the last three years are as follows:-

(In tonnes).

	Lead	Zinc
1996-97	91,810	2,11,149
1997-98	1,02,626	2,42,592
1998-99	1,08,912	2,43,958

In the absence of details of consumption, it is assumed that total supply of lead and zinc was consumed. Shortage in indigenous production was met through imports. Galvanised steel products, dry batteries, oxides & chemicals, alloys and die-cast, are major zinc consuming industries. In case of lead, lead acid batteries, oxides (major part of which goes into battery production), alloys, galvanising & others and cables are the major consuming industries.

- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) & (g) Do not arise