

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1251
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2003
SICK IRON ORE MINES
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of the sick iron ore mines at present, State-wise;
- (b) since when these mines have become sick alongwith the reasons for their sickness;
- (c) whether the Government have any proposal for revival of these sick mines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS)

(a) & (b): Mining is depleting Industry, and therefore mining becomes unviable if the mineral is exhausted. Also lack of demand for the mineral may lead to mining being unviable. There is no provision in the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 for furnishing information by the mines owners on sick mines. Therefore the State-wise details of individual sick iron ore mines are not centrally maintained.

(c) to (e): The Government have no specific scheme for revival of sick mines. However, where the closure or temporary discontinuance is due to lack of demand, it is felt that steps taken to liberalise the economy and increase in industrial production would result in increasing demand for minerals and to make such mines economical.