

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:127
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2003
PILFERAGE FROM MINES OF ORISSA
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO;PARSURAM MAJHI

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing pilferage of minerals especially iron ore and Manganese from various mines in orissa;
- (b) if so, the number of such incidents detected during each of the last three years and till date, mine-wise, company-wise;
- (c) the estimated annual loss of revenue due to pilferage during the said period;
- (d) the estimated value of the minerals smuggled out from that State;
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent theft or pilferage from the mines;and
- (f) the details of situation in other mineral bearing States?

Answer

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

(a)to (f): Instances of pilferage/illegal mining in different States are brought to the notice of Central Government from time to time.The States are the owners of minerals and pilferage/illegal mining has serious revenue implications for the States. Appropriately therefore, the responsibility for checking illegal/pilferage mining, if any, rests with the State Governments and hence detailed information in this regard is not centrally maintained.

To effectively curb illicit mining, State Governments have been empowered to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals under the provisions of Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals(Development and Regulation) Act, 1957.