

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2039  
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2003  
DHARNA OUTSIDE PRAGATI MAIDAN BY ANTI-MINING GROUPS  
JAYABEN B. THAKKAR

**Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether a large number of people representing anti-mining groups, unions and peoples organizations from various States held protest Dharna at New Delhi outside Pragati Maidan on 3/11/2003; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) As per available information, no Demonstration/Dharna was staged on 3.11.2003 outside Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. However, on 2.11.2003, a demonstration organized by social organisations under the leadership of Shri Gautam Navlakha including lawyers, journalists and students from Orissa, Bihar and some other states was held at Gate No.3, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi against exploitation of natural resources by foreign companies and against `World Mining Conference` being held in Ashoka Hotel, New Delhi. There were about 100/150 demonstrators. The demonstration was peaceful and no memorandum was given to anybody in this regard.