

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2764  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2006  
SICK IRON ORE MINES  
Athawale Shri Ramdas

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

- (a) The number of sick iron ore mines as on November, 2006 in the country, State-wise ;
- (b) The time since when these iron ore mines are sick ;
- (c) The reasons of their sickness ;
- (d) Whether the Government proposes to revive these sick mines; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

(a)to(c) : Mining is a depleting industry.Mines need to be closed because of several reasons including exhaustion of ore, poor grade of ore, lack of demand. There is no provision in the Mineral Conservation and Development Rules, 1988 for furnishing information by the mine owners on sick mines. Therefore, the State- wise details of individual sick iron ore mines are not centrally maintained.

(d)&(e) : The Government has 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.