Title: Need to allocate captive iron ore mines to the Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant.

SHRIMATI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA (BOBBILI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to raise this issue of urgent public importance regarding allotment of captive mines to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.

I would request the Government to take immediate steps to allocate captive iron ore mines to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. Otherwise, the future of the plant will be bleak. As per reliable reports, the steel plant is losing Rs.3,000 crore due to lack of captive mines.[KMR33]

Some private steel plants have been allotted captive mines, but the public sector steel plant does not have any. The steel plant is a national asset in the public sector. I would request the Government to allocate captive mines to the steel plant on a priority basis to make the plant more competitive.