

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2366**  
FOR ANSWER ON 14/12/2015

**SUPPLY OF IRON ORE**

2366. SHRIMATI KAMLA DEVI PAATLE:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of sponge iron plants set up in the country including Chhattisgarh, State-wise;
- (b) whether National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) provides iron ore to these plants;
- (c) if so, whether quantity of iron ore being provided is sufficient for the said plants;
- (d) if not, whether the Government proposes to increase the quantity of iron ore;
- (e) whether these plants also get iron ore from other States including Odisha and if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether Odisha State Administration has banned transportation of iron ore from the States to other States; and
- (g) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure adequate supply of iron ore to the said plants?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

- (a) The number of sponge iron plants set up in the country, State-wise are as under:-

State-Wise Distribution of Sponge Iron Plants, 2014-15

State	No. of Plants
<b>EASTERN REGION</b>	
JHARKHAND	64
ODISHA	122
WEST BENGAL	41
<b>WESTERN REGION</b>	
CHHATTISGARH	57
GOA	3
GUJARAT	2
MAHARASTRA	13
<b>SOUTHERN REGION</b>	
ANDHRA PRADESH	9
KARNATAKA	31
KERALA	2
TAMILNADU	7
TELANGANA	15
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>366</b>

Source : JPC

(b) Yes, Madam. National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) provides iron ore to some of the sponge iron units in the country.

(c)to(e): NMDC supplies less than 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of iron ore supplies in India and balance of supplies are by private parties and hence no comment can be made on adequacy of iron ore supply which is largely determined by market and commercial factors. Steel is a deregulated sector since 1992 and the role of the Government is that of a facilitator only. Investments, production and procurement of raw material for the Steel projects are therefore of conscious decision of the concerned investors based on commercial prudence and market dynamics. It may also be mentioned that there is no shortage of iron ore production capacity in the country at an aggregate national level.

(f) Odisha State Administration has not banned transportation of iron ore from the State to other States.

(g) Doesn't arise.

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