

STEPS TO INCREASE COPPER PRODUCTION

New Delhi: December 5,2005

The production of refined primary copper by the three major producing companies in the country in the year 2004-05 was 413543 tonnes. 31081 tonnes of copper have been imported during the year. As the production capacity has increased substantially, India currently is a net exporter of refined copper.

To increase production of copper, Government has opened up non-fuel and non-atomic mineral sector for private investment, including foreign direct investment. Installed capacity of major private sector manufacturers has been enhanced substantially. Hindustan Copper Limited, a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of Ministry of Mines, is taking steps for enhancing its mining capacity.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Mines Dr. Dasari Narayana Rao in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha today.

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