ENERGY

Mines ministry not for export duty hike

Panaji: The Union mines ministry has expressed its reservation over the finance ministry's decision to increase export duty on low grade iron ore in the country, a senior official said on Friday.

"The mines ministry is not favourably inclined towards increase in the export
duty," A.K. Srivastava, additional secretary, ministry of mines, said on the side-lines of a two-day meet on "Mining for Sustainability", PTI
Mines ministry against export duty hike

press trust of india

PANAJI, 13 JAN: The mines ministry has expressed reservation over the finance ministry's decision to increase export duty on the low grade iron ore in the country, a senior official said today.

“The mines ministry is not favourably inclined towards increase in the export duty,” Mr AK Srivastava, additional secretary, ministry of mines, told reporters on the sidelines a conference here.

He said the ministry has already written to the government about their views, which might be considered during the next Budget.

“There is always a Budget. The final call on the hike would be taken during the Budget,” Mr Srivastava said, adding that there is always a possibility that the Central government might revisit it during the presentation of the Budget.

The export duty was hiked from 20 per cent to 30 per cent from 30 December 2010 onwards by the finance ministry in order to channelise iron ore to Indian steel units.

Mr Srivastava said at least low grade ores, which are not consumed by the steel industry, should be spared from the hike.

“If export duty is increased on high grade, the low grade ore should be allowed to continue with the earlier duty,” he said.

The mines industry in Goa had expressed concerns over a hike, which according to them, would spell doom on their already troubled trade.

Goa Mineral Ore Exporters Association (GMOEA) and Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GCCCI) had made representations to Goa government seeking its intervention to roll back the excise duty hike.

State chief minister, Mr Digambar Kamat had said that the Union government would be approached with the pleas made by mining industry.
### PRICE CARD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>International</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>METALS ($/tonne)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminium</td>
<td>2,157.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Copper</td>
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<td>Nickel</td>
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<td>Lead</td>
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<td>Tin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silver (Urine)</td>
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**ENERGY**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>International</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crude Oil ($/bbl)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Gas ($/MMBtu)</td>
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**AGRI COMMODITIES ($/tonne)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>233.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maize</td>
<td>257.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Palm oil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rubber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coffee-Robusta</td>
<td>1,882.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cotton</td>
<td>2,104.8</td>
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Conversion rates: 1 euro = 81.1033216; 1 US dollar = 51.53
*As on Jan 13, 1800 hrs IST. *Change over three months.

**Notes:**
1. International metal are LME spot prices and domestic metal are Metal Bulletin spot prices except for lead.
2. International crude oil is Brent crude and domestic crude oil is Indian basket.
3. International natural gas is NYMEX near-month future & domestic natural gas is MCX near-month future.
4. International wheat, white sugar & coffee robusta are LIFFE near-month futures.
5. International wheat and domestic are MCX near-month futures.
6. International metals, crude oil and palm oil are Malaysia Fair-Settled price.
7. Domestic wheat & rice are NCPB Futures Prices of near-month contract.
8. International & domestic cotton are MCX Futures prices.
9. International & domestic crude oil prices are Singapore FOB-
10. Coffee is Dusseldorf futures.

**BALTIC EXCHANGE INDICES**

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<tr>
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<th>Jan 13, 12</th>
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<tr>
<td>Baltic Dry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltic Supramax</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltic Panama</td>
<td>1,538</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltic Capesize</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltic Handysize</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltic Clean Tanker</td>
<td>696</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baltic Dirty Tanker</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>0.39</td>
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*new previous close

**ELECTRICITY TRADING AT IEX**

Market price in ₹/MWh
Half of Goa's iron ore exports in 2011 were illegal

Devika Sequeira

PANAJI: More than 43 percent of the record 54 million tonnes of iron ore shipped out of Goa last year came from unauthorised mining operations. In 2009-2010, over a third of the ore exported — most of which is going to build China — was also illegal.

The environment NGO — Goa Foundation — which has sourced the data from the Union Ministry of Mines and an affidavit recently filed in the Bombay High Court by Goa’s director of mines Arvind Loliykar, said the huge scale of illegal mining is going on in Goa despite government supervision called for a high level CBI enquiry.

Goa Foundation also found discrepancies in statistics provided by the Centre and state government. While the Indian Bureau of Mines said 114 mining leases operated in Goa in 2009-2010, Loliykar said only 91 of them were running. “This means that the director of mines was not aware of the existence of 23 working leases. What happened to the ore produced by these leases and their royalty payments?” GP director Claude Alvares asked.

According to Loliykar’s affidavit, 48.38 million tonnes of ore was produced last year. But 54.03 million tonnes were exported. “The affidavit does not disclose the sources from where unaccounted 5.65 million tonnes was obtained. Obviously no royalty was paid on this. The sources of this ore are very important to ascertain that it was not extracted from illegal mines,” said Alvares.

Illegal excess ore produced by the industry as a whole was only 2.23 million tonnes in 2009-10 and 2.32 million in 2010-11, the state government claimed. But the reality was different, with some leases being over-exploited, said Alvares.

Excess production in fact shot up last year with 31 mining leases producing 27 million tonnes, 12.24 million tonnes above the limits specified in their environment clearances.

DH News Service
Copper Drops on Euro Zone Woes, China Holiday

REUTERS
LONDON | SHANGHAI

Copper fell on Friday subdued by a lacklustre Italian debt sale that signalled Europe's economic crisis remained unresolved and a slowdown in Chinese consumer buying before a week-long break.

Three-month copper on the London Metal Exchange was $7,960 a tonne in official rings, off an intraday high of $8,117, its highest in more than two months. Prices are still headed for a 5.1% gain this week, after two straight weeks of declines.

Copper rose to a more than two-month high on Thursday after data showing slower inflation in China and two successful European debt auctions boosted investor confidence that demand will rise.

VTB Capital analyst Andrey Kryuchenkov had been sceptical about the rally's longevity. "Firstly, we've got the Lunar New Year coming up, so it's going to be quiet," he said. "The eurozone is also not going to resolve itself overnight." The euro fell after an Italian debt sale could not reach the heights of a stellar Spanish auction the previous day, a reminder that Europe's problems are not yet over.

The results quashed some earlier signs of risk appetite, with investors heading back to safe havens, like US Treasury futures. European shares traded flat and on Wall Street, stock futures pointed to a flat opening.

The euro hit the day's lows after the debt sale and the dollar rose against a basket of currencies. A stronger dollar makes commodities priced in the unit more expensive for holders of other currencies. Still, Goldman Sachs said it expected upside copper prices citing greater supply risks and stronger fundamentals.

"We view gold and copper as providing the best value opportunities relative to our view of fundamentals in 2012," the investment bank said on Friday, citing remaining risks of substantial supply shortfalls. But for now, interest from Chinese metal consumers has tailed off ahead of the long Lunar New Year break.
Miners Not in Favour of Hike in Export Duty

PANJAB The Mines Ministry has expressed reservation over Finance Ministry’s decision to increase export duty on the low grade iron ore in the country, a senior official said on Friday.

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"There is always a budget. The final call on the hike would be taken during budget," Srivastava said, adding that there is always a possibility that central government might revisit it during the budget. The export duty was hiked from 20% to 30% from December 30, 2010 onwards by the Finance Ministry in order to channelise the iron ore to Indian steel industries.

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THUMB RULES ON WHEN TO EXIT A STOCK

TOO FAST TOO SOON
You may buy stocks on the basis of their fundamentals, but a variety of reasons can influence the market, including fund flows, risk appetite and trading interest. So the price of a stock can move up rapidly simply on sentiment or trader interest. For example, stock prices of mid-cap government-owned companies, Hindustan Copper and State Trading Corp. of India, rose around 80% in a matter of eight trading days. If you had invested in either stocks just before the rise, it may seem like you have done exceedingly well. In reality this is unlikely to be linked to fundamentals, which don’t change so drastically.

UNJUSTIFIED VALUATIONS
The valuations of a stock can be ascertained using different parameters. Analysts use a range of ratios and these ratios are typically measures relative to other companies in an industry. If over a period of time, the valuation of your stock exceeds the industry average significantly with no fundamental change to justify the high valuation, it may be prudent to exit. Also, if the present valuation of the stock is much higher than the historical average, that too can be a signal to sell.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS
Companies operate in a dynamic environment and significant events can have an effect on their earnings. As an investor you should keep track of these. For example, if one or two of the largest clients take their business elsewhere or the firm begins to lose market share, then you should be concerned. Significant changes in top management can also impact future earnings in a big way.

- LISA PALLAVI BARDORA
Rising Euro area exports boost copper

Bloomberg
June 13
Copper, poised for the biggest weekly gain in six weeks, rose in London as increased exports from the euro area fed optimism the region’s economy is stabilising.

Copper for three-month delivery climbed 0.4 per cent to $8,040 a tonne by 10:41 a.m. on the London Metal Exchange. Prices are up 6.1 per cent this week, set for the largest climb since the five days through December 2. Copper for March delivery rose 0.2 per cent to $3,656.5 a pound on the COMEX in New York.

INVENTORY ORDERS
Prices also increased after orders to draw copper from LME inventories reached the highest level since May 2009. Cancelled warrants, as the orders are called, jumped 34 per cent to 66,025 tonnes on an increase in New Orleans, exchange figures showed. Bookings at the location rose 58 per cent to 46,625 tonnes, the highest since 2004.

Copper stockpiles declined for a 15th week, falling 3.1 per cent to 356,825 tonnes.

Aluminium for three-month delivery on the LME slid 0.3 per cent to $2,156 a tonne.

Zinc fell 0.5 per cent to $1,958 a tonne and lead climbed 0.1 per cent to $2,033.50 a tonne. Nickel advanced 0.6 per cent to $19,789 a tonne and tin gained 0.4 per cent to $21,150 a tonne.
आयरन और पर टैक्स बढ़ाने का विरोध

अगले बजट में वित्त मंत्रालय के फैसले पर पुनर्विचार होने की उम्मीद

प्रेम * फाही

वित्त मंत्रालय द्वारा आयरन और पर निर्देशित पर टैक्स बढ़ाने जा रहे हैं के फैसले से खनन मंत्रालय सहमत नहीं है। खनन मंत्रालय ने इस फैसले पर अपनी भिड़िया से सरकार को अकाल कर दिया है। आगामी बजट में इस मुदे पर पुनर्विचार को सकती है।

वहां एक कांस्य में भाग लेने आदेश खनन मंत्रालय के अधिक विवाद अधिकार बढ़ाया के, श्रीरामलाल से संबद्ध व्यक्तों को कहा कि खनन मंत्रालय अपने और पर निर्देशित शुल्क बढ़ाने के प्रयास में नहीं है। मंत्रालय ने अपने विवादों से सरकार को अकाल कर दिया है। उन्होंने उम्मीद जाहिर कि अगले बजट में सरकार आयरन और पर प्रतिवेदन शुल्क बढ़ाने के फैसले पर पुनर्विचार कर सकती है।

श्रीरामलाल ने निर्देशित शुल्क 30 पौड़ी से बढ़कर 30 पौड़ी कर दिया था। वित्त मंत्रालय ने फैले स्टील जोध के आयरन और जोध शुल्क सुनिश्चित करने के लिए निर्देशित शुल्क में बढ़ोत्तरी की थी। श्रीरामलाल ने कहा कि वह से कम लिन जोध के आयरन और को निर्देशित टैक्स बढ़ोत्तरी से मुक्त रहना चाहए क्योंकि यह आयरन और फैले जोध के उपयोग नहीं करते हैं।

उन्होंने कहा कि ब्लूड के दृष्टि पर जोधांनी बढ़कर 30 पौड़ी कर दिया था। वित्त मंत्रालय ने फैले स्टील जोध के आयरन और जोध शुल्क से मुक्त रहना चाहिए। यह में महंगे उद्योग ने जोधक बढ़कर परिवार जाहिर की है और कहा है कि वह पहले ही समस्याओं से जुड़ा हो जोध को इससे काफी झटका लागेगा।