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## **Indian iron ore mining mess - Jharkhand allocations under scanner**

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Although he began his life as a laborer in iron ore mines, former Jharkhand chief minister Madhu Koda at the centre of a spreading scandal following a probe on unaccounted money, built his empire between 2005 and 2008 when he was the mines minister (February 2005 to September 2006) and later chief minister (September 2006 to August 2008).

According to documents available with the Income Tax Department, during this period, the Jharkhand government signed memoranda of understanding with private parties amounting to INR 161,708 crore for various mega projects like steel plants and sponge iron factories. Most of the MoUs related to minerals and mines in the state.

Along with these, Mr Koda also renewed or issued fresh licenses to at least 150 miners.

(Sourced from Business Standard)

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