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Written by TOLONews.com



Afghanistan Integrity Watch has voiced concern over a possible use of power by political parties to take advantage of Hajigak iron ore in the country.

A latest report by Afghanistan Integrity Watch said that political parties might use power to profiteer after the extraction of Hajigak iron ore, the biggest iron deposit in the country.

But officials in ministry of mines said there are enough preparations on the ground for proper utilisation of the mine.

There are fifty villages surrounding the Hajigak iron ore and the extraction of this mine would possibly destroy farming fields of some people and the area will also hit by drought, the report said.

"There will be some social problems emerging in the future. Because when some companies move there and invest, then people should leave their places. And there could be environment problems too," Jawed Nurani, a mining monitor, told TOLONews:

But ministry of mines said there are plans already to avoid such sort of problems and education facilities have also been considered for the dwellers around Hajigak mine.

"We are still working on Hajigak iron ore and the concerns that have been expressed in the report would be avoided," Mines Ministry Spokesman Jawad Omar told TOLONews.

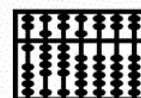
Meanwhile, Chamber of Commerce and Industries said Hajigak iron ore should be put out to tender transparently.

Taufiq Dawari, director of policy department for chamber of commerce, said: "International standards should not be pushed in our internal regulations, because it will make our investors reluctant."

Hajigak iron ore is one of the biggest iron deposits in the world and the government would gain



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\$300 million each year after the mine is ready to be utilised.

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