

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES AND MINERALS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2823  
ANSWERED ON:17.12.1999  
EXPLORATION OF COAL IN MAHARASHTRA  
RAMSHETH THAKUR

**Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted by the Government to explore the possibilities of coal in the hilly areas of Sahayadri in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which the survey is likely to be conducted?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES & MINERALS SMT. RITA VERMA

(a) to (c): As per the information received from Geological Survey of India (GSI), GSI has not carried out any survey to explore the possibilities of occurrence of coal in the Sahayadri hilly area of Maharashtra. This area is occupied by huge thickness of Deccan basalts and as such drilling has not been undertaken by GSI. Directorate of Geology & Mining, Maharashtra have carried out drilling in the Ratnagiri and surrounding areas where 29 bore holes were drilled and maximum thickness of 0.85 metres of lignite deposits was intersected. Based on the data available, GSI is not contemplating any further exploration in the Ratnagiri area of Maharashtra.