

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4267
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2002
DEPOSITS OF NICKEL
PARSURAM MAJHI

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have identified potential of nickel deposits in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise especially in Orissa;
- (c) whether any project is in the offing for mining nickel in the State of Orissa; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Occurrences/prospects of nickel have been reported in the states of Orissa, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Manipur and Nagaland. In Orissa the nickel resources are found in Cuttack, Keonjhar, Mayurbhanj and Jajpur districts.

The State-wise conditional resources of nickel ore in the country as on 1.4.2000 as available with Indian Bureau of Mines are as follows:

(reserves in million tonnes)

State	Proved	Probable	Possible	Total
Orissa	51.54	71.68	51.26	174.48
Jharkhand	- 2	7	9	
Karnataka	- -	0.23	0.23	
Nagaland	- -	5	5	
Total:	51.54	73.68	63.49	188.71

Orissa state with a resource of 174.48 m.t. of nickel ore accounts for 72% of the total resource in the country.

(c) : No, Sir. There is no project in the offing for Mining Nickel in Orissa.

(d) : Question does not arise.