

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5749
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2000
EXTRACTING OF URANIUM
A.F. GOLAM OSMANI

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had busted a racket in extracting of Uranium deposit in Meghalaya and other North-Eastern States;
- (b) the number of cases for unlawful extraction and possession and smuggling detected during each of the last three years; and
- (c) the controlling authority in the matter of extraction of Uranium in the region and the action taken against the unauthorised dealing of the above matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

(SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE)

- (a) A case of unlawful possession of sodium di-uranate was detected by the Police of Meghalaya State in October 1994. After investigation, two charge sheets against the accused were filed by the Police in the relevant courts of Chief Judicial Magistrates.
- (b) During the last three years (1997, 1998 and 1999), no such case in Meghalaya or other north-eastern States was brought to the notice of the Government (Department of Atomic Energy)
- (c) Extraction of uranium requires licence under the provision of section 14 of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 which is administered by the Department of Atomic Energy(DAE). Currently, the Uranium Corporation of India Ltd., a central public sector undertaking under the administrative control of the DAE, is the only entity engaged in the mining of uranium ores and production/extraction of natural uranium therefrom. At present, there is no mining/extraction of uranium in the north-eastern region.