

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:330
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2003
URANIUM RESERVES AND EXPLORATION
MONI KUMAR SUBBA

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain areas in Assam, Meghalaya and other North Eastern States have rich uranium reserves;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any exploration and exploitation of such reserves has been planned;
- (d) if so, the details of such plans;
- (e) the action taken so far in this regard; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken to prevent any radiation hazards involved in such processes?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MOS IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (ADDITIONAL CHARGE) - S.B. MOOKHERJEE:

- (a) Yes Sir. Uranium ore reserves have been located in the state of Meghalaya and a few sporadic occurrences in Assam.
- (b) Estimated uranium deposits in Domiasiat, Wahkyn, & Tyrnai in West Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya are as under :

Name Uranium Oxide in Tonnes

Domiasiat	9500
Wahkyn	5000
Tyrnai	600

- (c) Uranium Corporation of India Limited has initiated action to commence work on uranium mining and processing facilities in Domiasiat, Meghalaya during the X Plan period.
- (d) & (e) Preparatory work (like preparation of detailed project report, environmental impact assessment studies etc.) for this project has been taken up. UCIL has filed application for grant of mining lease with the State Government.
- (f) Radiation Levels in uranium mining and milling operations are not expected to be high. All necessary engineered radiation protection measures will be incorporated in the design of the mine and mill. No radiation hazard to the plant personnel or environment is likely on account of mining/ milling operations.