

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2154
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2003
EXPLORATION OF MINERALS BY GSI
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Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Geological Survey of India (GSI) have decided to undertake the detailed exploration for coal, sillimanite, iron ore, bauxite etc. in various parts of the country specially in the States of Maharashtra and Rajasthan to find out additional reserves of these items;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government have also drawn up a scheme to carry out prospecting work for gold, diamond and zinc in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the exploration work undertaken during the last two-three years resulted in additional reserves of all these minerals;
- (f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (g) the steps taken by the GSI to expedite the exploration work in cooperation with the State Governments with a view to achieve better results; and
- (h) the total import and export of these minerals during the last three years, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS)

(a & b) : Geological Survey of India (GSI) as a part of its charter of functions carries out regional exploration for locating additional mineral resources in various parts of the country. As regards exploration of coal, bauxite and iron-ore, it has undertaken 37 items of regional exploration for coal (+ lignite), 2 items each for iron ore and bauxite during the field season 2003-04 in various parts of the country. GSI has not carried out exploration for sillimanite in the last three years.

The States-wise investigation carried out for coal were : Maharashtra - 3 items, Rajasthan - 1 item, Madhya Pradesh - 8 items, Chhattisgarh - 6 items, West Bengal - 4 items, Jharkhand - 4 items, Orissa - 5 items, Andhra Pradesh - 3 items and Tamil Nadu - 3 items; for Bauxite : Maharashtra - 1 item, Orissa - 1 item; and, 2 investigations for iron-ore in Meghalaya.

(c & d) : For prospecting of gold, diamond and basemetal (zinc) in the country, 26 investigations for gold, 11 investigations for diamond and 13 investigations for basemetals (including Zinc) have been carried out in the states of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Sikkim, Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Meghalaya and Karnataka.

(e & f) : Yes, Sir. The state-wise additional resources of these minerals estimated by GSI during the last two-three years are as below:-

(figures in million tonnes)

States	Coal (lignite) zinc	Basemetal (including 1.16 g/t to 6.28 g/t)	Iron-ore oreGrade	Bauxite	Gold	Diamond(carats)
West Bengal	1193.94	- -	-	-	-	-
Jharkhand	1175.75	- -	-	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	856.59	- -	-	-	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	867.93	0.80	-	-	-	-
Maharashtra	43.00	- -	5.70	-	-	-
Orissa	4061.55	- 112.00	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	335.14	- -	-	1.11	3.90	-
Rajasthan	- 6.65	-	- 13.00	-	-	-

(g) : To expedite the exploration efforts GSI interacts with the State Governments through State Geological Programming Board meetings to finalize its annual programme for better results and to avoid duplication of work

(h) : Collection of export and import data is done at national level and therefore, state-wise figures are not maintained.