

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3082
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003
SATELLITE SURVEY FOR DIAMOND
YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether satellite imagery is used to map and trace about prospects of diamonds in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of areas where this mapping has been done alongwith the result thereof;
- (c) whether mining of diamonds has been started on the basis of the mapping; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

- (a) : Yes, Sir. Satellite imageries are being used to identify geological structures and geo-morphic features which may lead to identification of prospective areas of kimberlite/lamproite bodies which normally host diamonds.
- (b) : During the last three years satellite imagery has been used for identifying kimberlite/lamproite pipes/bodies in Mahboobnagar, Nalgonda, Kurnool, Annantapur, Khammam and Krishna districts of Andhra Pradesh; Raichur, Gulburga and Tumkur districts of Karnataka; Chandrapur and Gadchiroli districts of Maharashtra; Bastar, Raigarh and Jangih-champa districts of Chhattisgarh and Bargar, Nuapada, Bolangir, Sambalpur, Sonapur and Jharsududa districts of Orissa. Incidence of diamond has been indicated from gravels of Ib river in Raigarh area, Chattisgarh and Wajrakarur Kimberlite field Annantpur district of Andhra Pradesh.
- (c) : No, Sir.
- (d) : Question does not arise.