

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ATOMIC ENERGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3710  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000  
SAFETY MEASURES  
BASUDEB ACHARIA

**Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the revelations of a study carried out by the Environment Assessment Division of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre(BARC) on the exposure of a group of villages in Karunagappally Taluk of Kerala to a much higher dose of natural radiation from a monazite belt than the global average;

(b) if so, the impact of the exposure on the health of the people living in the Taluk; and

(c) the kind of protection of the residents would need from radiation from the monazite belt since the radioactive pollution in the mining of uranium by the Uranium Corporation of India Limited(UCIL) in Jaduguda in Bihar has seriously affected the health of workers and the people there?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) Extensive studies conducted in this area have not shown any ill-effects on the health of the people living in the Karunagappally Taluk due to higher background radiation level. It is not true that, the mining operation of Uranium Corporation of India Ltd.(UCIL) has affected the health of the workers and people around Jaduguda in Bihar.