

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3419
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2004
GOLD MINING IN ORISSA COAST
Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has found out the possibility of the presence of gold under off Orissa Coast;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made any assessment of viability of gold mining;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to undertake gold mining therein?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

- (a) : As per information available with Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), a subordinate office under Department of Mines, no Gold occurrences have been reported under off coast of Orissa.
- (b) : Question does not arise.
- (c) : No, Sir. The viability of Gold has not been assessed in the state of Orissa.
- (d) : Question does not arise.
- (e) : No viable gold bearing mine-able block has been established by any agency in Orissa Coast so far. As per the National Mineral Policy 1993, the exploration and exploitation of these minerals has been thrown open to private investment and therefore commercial exploitation of minerals take place as per economic viability of the mineral.