

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1837
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2010
LIGNITE RESERVES
Singh Shri Bhupendra

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated quantum of lignite reserves in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of new reserves/areas of lignite which have been explored alongwith the estimated quantum available in these reserves/areas, State-wise;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken to develop lignite reserves; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be extracted?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

(a): As per available information, the quantum of lignite reserves estimated in the country(State wise)as on 01-04-2009 is given below:

Sl.No State Geological Reserves (in Million Tonnes)

1 Tamil Nadu 31401.80

2 Puducherry 416.61

3 Rajasthan 4554.05

4 Gujarat 2662.75

5 J & K 27.55

6 Kerala 9.65

7 West Bengal 1.15

Total 39073.55

(b): As per available information, the details of state-wise new reserve areas added to the lignite inventory from 2005 to 2009 are given below:

S.No State Lignite Blocks Reserves (in Million Tonnes)

1. Tamilnadu Bhuvanageri -Kullanchavadi 385.40
Eastern Part of Neyveli 562.32
Alangudi 158.00
Pandanallur 73.67
Tirumangaichri 113.19
Misal 52.71

Sub-Total (Tamilnadu) 1345.29

2 Rajasthan Nagurda and Nagurda East 254.00

Kawas Gravity Block	53.69
South of Nimbla	109.60
Sewara	76.08
Bapeau	35.58
Bigga Abaisinghpura	44.64
Sub-Total (Rajasthan)	573.59

Grant Total 1918.88

(c): Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), Geological Survey of India (GSI) are the exploration agencies involved in promotional Lignite Exploration. For the XI plan, a target of 3.50 lakhs metres (2.95 lakhs metres for MECL & 0.55 lakhs metres for GSI) is envisaged for promotional lignite exploration in the country.

(d): After allotment of lignite blocks to the mining entrepreneurs by the Government the development of lignite production takes 36 to 60 months depending upon the lease holder obtaining necessary clearances.