

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4310
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2010
STUDY ON RESOURCES IN INDIAN OCEAN
Pangi Shri Jayaram

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to exploit the vast resources found beneath the Indian Ocean;
- (b) if so, the details of action plan prepared in this regard; and
- (c) the funds allocated for the purpose?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a-c) The Ministry of Earth Sciences is pursuing research and developmental efforts towards assessment of mineral resource potential of polymetallic nodules, cobalt crusts and hydrothermal sulphides in Indian Ocean. Presently, there is no plan for exploitation of these resources and no funds have been allocated for the purpose.