GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINES LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2291 ANSWERED ON:21.07.2009 GOLD RESERVES Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the new gold reserve areas identified in the country including Rajasthan;
- (b) the approximate quantum of gold deposits in those blocks, State-wise;
- (c) whether steps have been taken to mine gold from those mines; and
- (d) if so, the results achieved thereof, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) &(b): As a result of its regional surveys, Geological Survey of India (GSI) has identified a number of Gold deposits in the country during the last three years in the States of Karnataka, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan where investigations have led to the estimation of resources as given below:-

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State Year Block / district Resource of Grade of Gold
Gold Ore (grams/tonne)
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Rajasthan 2005-06 & 2006-07 Delwara West Block, 4.78 million 1.32 g/t. Bhukia Gold Belt, tonnes Banswara district

Delwara Block, 1.30 million 1.5 g/t. Bhukia Gold Belt, tonnes Banswara district

Khankariya Gara Block, 1.24 million 0.96 g/t Bhukia Gold Belt, tonnes Banswara district

Dugocha Main (Central) Additional block and Dugocha resource of North Block, Udaipur 0.16 million district tonne

2007-08 Delwara West Block, 5.36 million 2.09 g/t

Banswara tonnes

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Chhattisgarh 2007-08 Baghmara block, 0.09 million 0.93 g/t.
   Sonakhan area, tonnes
   Raipur District
Jharkhand 2005-06 Parasi, Ranchi 1.11 million 2.24 g/t.
   district tonnes
    Pahardia, West 0.33 million 3.65 g/t.
   Singhbhum district tonnes
Karnataka 2005-06 Ajjanahalli East Block, 0.293 million 2.00 g/t.
   Tumkur district tonnes
  2006-07 Ajjanahalli central 0.10 million 1.65 g/t.
   sector, Tumkur district tonnes
   Ajjanahalli East Block 0.38 million 1.70 g/t.
    (North Sector), Tumkur tonnes
   district
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(c) & (d): GSI does regional exploration for minerals on a systematic basis to estimate the availability of resources. Prospecting and mining is done primarily by private enterprise based on the technical feasibility and economic benefits. Minerals are the property of the State Governments and mining leases are granted by State Governments on the basis of applications made to them, in accordance with the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and the information regarding these applications is not maintained by the Government of India. However, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) has done detailed exploration (prospecting) in the following new areas for Gold deposits identified earlier by GSI:-

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State Reserves Grade of Gold
      (Million tonne)
1. Bhukia East Banswara Rajasthan 11.74 2.51g/t
                         Jharkhand Field work completed. Sampling
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S.No. Block Name District

2. Parasi Central Ranchi

During 2008-09, MECL has also completed detailed exploration at Dhani Basri prospect, district Dausa in Rajasthan wherein a total of 5.13 million tonnes of copper and gold ore with 1.17% Cu and 1.27 g/t Au has been estimated.