

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:113
ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA
Pakkirappa Shri S.

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Geological Survey of India(GSI) is the nodal agency for locating or identifying new minerals;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether continuous efforts are being made to upgrade the mining technology as per international standard and using state-of-art equipment for mineral assessment;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether any quantification of total mineral reserves in the country has been conducted; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) : At national level, Geological Survey of India(GSI) carries out regional survey and exploration for minerals on an annual basis and estimates mineral resources in the country. In addition, all State-level Directorates of Mining and Geology also do survey and exploration on a detailed basis. However, their information is not maintained by Government of India. Details of the mineral investigations carried out by Geological Survey of India (GSI) are also published in the form of mineral-specific Detailed Information Dossier (DID) which are available on GSI's Portal (www.portal.gsi.gov.in).

(c) and (d) : In GSI, continuous efforts are being made to upgrade the technology and use state-of-the-art equipment as per international standard for regional exploration of minerals. GSI is planning an extensive programme of modernization in the future on the advice of the Parliamentary Standing Committee and as per guidelines laid down by an Expert Panel on Modernization of GSI constituted by Ministry of Mines. Besides, the National Mineral Policy, 2008, has also emphasized that exploration and prospecting be maximized through scientific methods of mining, beneficiation and economic utilization.

(e) : Does not arise.

(f) and (g): GSI does not estimate mineral reserves. This work is undertaken by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM). Based on the data obtained from various agencies engaged in detailed exploration and exploitation including State Government Agencies, IBM publishes the Indian Mineral Year Book annually.