

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3601

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2011

URANIUM RESERVES

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Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has identified the high value uranium reserves in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the quantum of uranium reserves found in the country location-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the expenditure incurred by the Government on the said exploration and other works during the last three years and the current year alongwith the details of such exploration work carried out; State-wise;
- (d) the revenue likely to be generated from the said reserves;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to open new mines and setting up of new processing plants;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the percentage of uranium likely to be imported by the country to meet the production targets of atomic energy at present?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
(SHRIV. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent Unit of the Department of Atomic Energy has established the presence of 1,71,672 tonnes of Uranium (U308) as on 30.06.2011. The location-wise and state-wise details of the uranium resources are as under:

STATE	NAME OF THE DEPOSIT	URANIUM RESOURCES
(LOCATION)	ESTABLISHED	
(IN METRIC		
TONNES U308)		

ANDHRA PRADESH	LAMBAPUR	1450
	PEDDAGATTU	7585
	TUMMALAPALLE	63269
	-RACHAKUNTAPALLE	
	KOPPUNURU	2761
	CHITRIAL	8473
	SUB-TOTAL	83538

CHHATTISGARH	BODAL	1530
	JAJAWAL	1438
	DHUMATH-DHABI	500
	BHANDARITOLA	518
	SUB-TOTAL	3986

HIMACHAL PRADESH	RAJPURA	364
	KASHA-KALADI	200
	TILELI	220
	SUB-TOTAL	784

JHARKHAND	JADUGUDA	5100
	JADUGUDA EXTENSION	1600

BHATIN 1150
 NARWAPAHAR 10700
 NARWAPAHAR EXTENSION 1080
 TURAMDIH 3750
 BANDUHURAN 5460
 BAGJATA 1860
 MOHULDIH 1700
 MOHULDIH EXTENSION 1630
 TURAMDIH (SOUTH) 4850
 GARADIH 1270
 KANYALUKA 1970
 NIMDIH 815
 RAJGAON 1200
 NANDUP 2910
 CENTRAL KERUADUNGRI 1029
 SINGRIDUNGRI-BANADUNGRI 1764
 BANGURDIH 1140
 SUB-TOTAL 50978

STATE NAME OF THE DEPOSIT URANIUM RESOURCES
 (LOCATION) ESTABLISHED
 (IN METRIC TONNES U3O8)

KARNATAKA GOGI 4267
 WALKUNJI-YELLAKKI 415
 SUB-TOTAL 4682

MAHARASHTRA MOGARRA 355
 SUB-TOTAL 355

MEGHALAYA KPM (DOMIASIAT) 9500
 WAHKYN 5381
 GOMAGHAT-PHLANGDILOIN 1000
 TYRNAI 600
 LOSTOIN 771
 WAHKUT 1161
 UMTHONGKUT 753
 SUB-TOTAL 19738

RAJASTHAN ROHIL 5566
 UMRA 1160
 SUB-TOTAL 6726

UTTAR PRADESH NAKTU 785
 SUB-TOTAL 785

UTTARAKHAND POKHRI-TUNJI 100
 SUB-TOTAL 100
 GRAND TOTAL 1,71,672

[1 tonne of U3O8 = 0.848 tonnes of uranium metal]

(c) The details of expenditure incurred during the last three years on uranium exploration under Plan and Non-Plan are as follows:

Sector Expenditure (Rupees in crore)

FY 2008-09 FY 2009-10 FY 2010-11

Plan	93.82	114.86	115.52
Non-Plan	99.72	143.28	137.10
Total	193.54	258.14	252.62

The exploration is carried out depending upon the geological set up of the area and due to geological continuity, the areas in contiguous two states are covered/explored.

Therefore, the state-wise expenditure is not considered for a particular activity of exploration.

(d) The uranium reserves established by AMD are exploited by the Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking of this Department through mining and milling process. Thereafter, the Nuclear Fuel Complex (NFC), a constituent Unit of the Department fabricates the fuel to be used in the nuclear power stations for indigenous power generation by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. (NPCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking of the Department of Atomic Energy. Therefore, no direct revenues will be generated from the Uranium reserves; but the reserves will enable operation of nuclear power reactors and generation of electricity.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The UCIL is presently operating five underground mines (viz. Jaduguda, Bhatin, Narwapahar, Turamdih and Bagjata), one open cast mine (Banduhurang) and two Processing Plants (Jaduguda and Turamdih) in East Singhbhum District and one underground mine at Mohuldih is under construction at Saraikela Kharswan District (all in Jharkhand State). An underground mine and ore processing plant at Tummalapalle (Tummalapalle Uranium Project) in Andhra Pradesh with a capacity to process 3000 tonnes per day (tpd) ore is in advanced stage of construction. An underground mine and process plant at Gogi in Yadgir District of Karnataka is under pre-project stage.

(g) Required quantities of Uranium is being presently imported under agreements with other countries, for utilization in 10 nuclear reactors which are under safeguards. Besides, these imports also help in stockpiling of Uranium for future use.