

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2791
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011
CHECK ON URANIUM MINING
Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Wildlife Board has cancelled the uranium mining projects in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor especially in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (c) the extent to which the parameters have been adopted by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) to (c) The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife had considered a proposal for exploratory drilling for uranium in Rongcheng Plateau, Balpakram National Park, South Garo Hills District, Meghalaya in its 19th meeting held on 14th May 2010. The Committee noted that a large number of reports were received showing concern on the uranium mining in Balpakram National Park which is an ecological hotspot and home to rare and endangered species like Slow Loris, Hoolock Gibbon, and Elephants besides being a sacred place for indigenous Garo community of Meghalaya. Proposal for uranium mining in other parts of the country, including Andhra Pradesh, have not been received for consideration by the Standing Committee of National Board for Wildlife during the last three years including the current year.