

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3637
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2012
EXPLORATION OF DIAMOND ZONES
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is abundant potential for exploration of new diamond zones in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of diamond zones explored by the Geological Survey of India(GSI) and other agencies during each of the last three years and the current year, location-wise;
- (c) whether studies by the GSI have revealed that the diamond zone extends beyond Vijayawada and up to the shores of Avanigadda and Nagayalanka in Krishna district and Repalle in Guntur district in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the present position thereof; and
- (e) the further measures proposed to be taken by the Government for exploration of new diamond zones in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

- (a) : Yes, Madam.
- (b) : The details of diamond zones explored during each of last three years and current year, location-wise are given in the Annexure.
- (c) : No, Madam. GSI has not carried out any work in the areas beyond Vijaywada up to the shores of Avanigadda and Nagayalanka in Krishna district and Repalle in Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh.
- (d) : Question does not arise.
- (e) : GSI consistently carries out exploration for diamonds in the potential areas and has discovered numerous kimberlites and lamproites in the last ten years. In the Annual Field Season Programmes of GSI, items for exploration of diamonds in the potential areas are taken up. Further, with the liberalization of mining sector in the year 1993, exploration and mining of minerals is open to private sector as well.