

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1452  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013  
SURVEY ON MINERAL INVESTIGATIONS  
Biswal Shri Hemanand ;Mukherjee Shri Abhijit

**Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of quantum and value of metal and mineral reserves/resources estimated in the country at present along with their total number of mines in the private and public sectors, mineral and State/UT-wise;
- (b) the production and consumption of minerals including gold and diamond in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, mineral and State/UTwise along with the steps being taken by the Government to augment the production to reduce the dependence on imports;
- (c) the details of the surveys conducted by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and other concerned agencies in various States along with the outcome thereof during the said period, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the expenditure incurred on exploration of mineral resources during the said period, mineral and State/UT-wise;
- (e) the details of the new mineral rich areas identified by GSI and other agencies, particularly in mineral rich tribal areas along with the progress made in this regard; and
- (f) the measures taken/proposed to be taken for exploration of the nation's rich deposits including participation of international/foreign companies therein along with the safeguard measures taken or conditions laid down to seek their expertise?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) and (b): As per information available, details of mineral reserves/resources estimated in the country is given in Annexure I. Details of the total number of mines in the private and public sectors, mineral and State/UT-wise is at Annexure II. Production and value of MCDR minerals from 2010-11 to 2012-13 and consumption of important minerals during 2009-10 to 2011-12 including gold and diamond in the country are given at Annexure III and Annexure IV respectively. To augment production to reduce dependence on imports, Geological Survey of India (GSI) proposes to explore new mineral rich areas including gold mineral in the country.

(c): State-wise details of the mineral surveys conducted by the GSI in various States along with the outcome during the last three years and current year are given at Annexure V.

(d): During the period 2010-11 till 2013-14, Geological Survey of India and Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited incurred expenditure of about Rs.88.72 crore and about Rs.25.56 crore respectively on exploration of mineral resources.

(e) and (f): Details of the new mineral rich areas identified by GSI, particularly in mineral rich tribal areas along with the progress made in this regard is at Annexure VI.

GSI is the principal agency for mineral resource assessment of the country through systematic investigation of geologically potential areas. GSI is steadily equipping itself through upgradation of the in-house capabilities through, inter-alia, strengthening its capacity building and reorganizing its organizational structure to meet the new challenges. The induction and infusion of technological advancement of GSI in the mineral sector is based upon achieving the following objectives:

- (i) Conceptual studies and identification of favorable geological milieu, mainly in respect of unknown and non-reported minerals.
- (ii) Identification of concealed /hidden mineral bodies through modern and sophisticated exploration methods and techniques.
- (iii) Reorganization of efforts by getting conceptually and instrumentally better equipped.

The Central Government has also introduced the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2011 in the Lok Sabha on 12.12.2011 which, inter-alia, has provisions for a new mineral concession instrument i.e. High Technology Reconnaissance-cum-Exploration Licence (HTREL) for attracting technology and investment intensive exploration in the country.