

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:715  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009  
R D ACTIVITIES IN MINING SECTOR  
Dubey Shri Nishikant

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

- (a) whether Research and Development (R&D) activities are being undertaken by the Government and Private entities in the mining sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of last three years and the current year;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated and expenditure incurred by the Government during the said period on R&D in mining;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any plan to improve the quality of exploration and exploitation of mineral resources in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (f) the details of the latest technology available in the country vis-a-vis other countries?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. The Government does not maintain data on Research and Development (R&D) activities undertaken by private entities. The details of funds allocated/expenditure incurred by the Government on Research & Development activities in mining sector during last three years and the current year are as follows:-

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Organization	Provision	Amount released
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2006-07	National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM), Kolar	26	26
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	National Institute of Miner's Health (NIMH), Nagpur	21	20.72
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	Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development & Design Centre (JNARDDC), Nagpur	98	98
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	Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	50	50
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	Other Research Programmes:-	54	
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(i)	Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	48	
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(ii)	Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat	4	
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2007-08	Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development & Design Centre (JNARDDC), Nagpur	100	100
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	National Institute of Miner's Health (NIMH), Nagpur	20	20
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National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur 03 2.475

Regional Research Laboratory, Bhopal 10 03

Other Research Programmes:- 90

(i) Bundelkhand University, Jhansi. 40

(ii) Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat 17.65

2008-09 Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development & Design Centre (JNARDDC), Nagpur 130 130

National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM), Kolar 47 47

National Institute of Miner's Health (NIMH), Nagpur 30 30

Other Research Programmes:- 93

(i) Thapar Institute of Engineering & Technology, Patiala 10

(ii) Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore 23

(iii) Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development (JNARDDC), Nagpur 54.8

(iv) College of Technology & Engineering, Maharana Pratap University, Udaipur 5.2

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year Organization Provision Amount released/proposed

2009-10

(As on

19.11.2009) Other Research Programmes:- 300

(i) Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development & Design Centre. 38

(ii) Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology, Bhubaneswar 12.2

(iii) Central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research (CIFMR), Nagpur 32

(iv) Central Institute of Mining & Fuel Research, Dhanbad 12.15

(d) to (f): Yes, Madam.

The Government of India has formulated the National Mineral Policy, 2008 in which thrust has been given to improve the quality of exploration and exploitation of mineral resources in the country. Special attention will be given to the development of strategic minerals through systematic investigation. Focus will also be given to survey and exploration of minerals in which the country has poor or just adequate resource base. Exploration for noble metals, base metals, high grade ilmenite etc. will be put on fast track.

The Geological Survey of India (GSI), which has been entrusted with regional level mineral survey and assessment work, conducts advanced exploration including aerial geophysical surveys using fixed wing aircraft and ground geophysical surveys. GSI is procuring a Heliborne geophysical survey system with Magnetic, Gravity, Time Domain-Electromagnetic and Radiometric sensors.

Hyperspectral survey is one of the latest techniques used in many foreign countries where spectral signatures of various minerals received either through satellite or aerial survey, when analysed lead to mineral suites associated with mineral deposits. GSI and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) have jointly taken up a pilot project on the Hyperspectral study of the Hatti-Muski schist belt in Karnataka during the Field Season 2009-10.