

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:786  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009  
AERIAL SURVEY FOR EXPLORATION OF MINERALS  
Lal Shri Kirodi

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

- (a) whether any aerial survey conducted to explore minerals and promote mining in the country, especially in backward and rural areas;
- (b) if so, the outcome of such surveys, State-wise;
- (c) whether some companies have been entrusted with the work exploring mineral; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, company-wise and State-wise?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Aerial surveys are carried out to explore for minerals in the country, including backward and rural areas. The Government of India has conveyed prior approval for grant of Reconnaissance Permits (RP) in mineral rich States of India for exploration of minerals. During reconnaissance prospecting, aerial geophysical, ground geophysical, geochemical and geological surveys have been undertaken which are followed by drilling at suitable locations. So far, a total of 339 RPs have been issued covering an area of 4,66,556 sq. km, out of which aerial surveys have been conducted in 27 RPs.

The outcome of the aerial surveys State-wise and company wise is as follows:-

State	Company	Status/outcome
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Andhra Pradesh	De Beers India Minerals Pvt. Ltd.	No economic mineralization discovered in Kurnool and Mahboobnagar district over an area of 2000 sq.km.
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	De Beers India Minerals Prosp.Pvt.Ltd.	No Kimberlite discovered in Kurnool district over an area of 1635 sq.km..
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-do-		1 Kimberlite discovered in Kurnool district over an area of 679 sq.km.
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-do-		No Kimberlite zone encountered in Anantapur district over an area of 300 sq.km.
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	De Beers India Surveys Pvt.Ltd.	3 Lamproites discovered in Kurnool and Prakasam districts over an area of 2000 sq.km.
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	CRA Exploration India Pvt. Ltd.	Mineralized zone encountered in Anantapur district over an area of 2240 sq.km.
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-do-		Mineralized zone encountered in Kurnool and Anantapur districts over an area of 2760 sq.km.
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-do-		Mineralized zone encountered in Anantapur district over an area of 2170 sq.km.
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-do- Mineralized zone encountered in Kurnool and Anantapur districts over an area of 2160 sq.km.

NMDC Ltd. 1 New Kimberlite discovered in Anantapur district over an area of 2300 sq.km.

Orissa De Beers India Minerals Pvt.Ltd. 1 Lamproite discovered in Kalahandi and Nawarangpur districts over an area of 2000 sq.km.

De Beers India Pros. Pvt. Ltd. No significant discovery in Kalahandi, Bolangir and Nuapada districts over an area of 1880 sq.km.

-do- 8 Lamproites discovered in Nuapada and Bolangir districts over an area of 2000 sq.km.

De Beers India Minerals Pvt. Ltd. 1 Lamproite discovered in Nawarangpur district over an area of 2000 sq.km.

De Beers India Pros. Pvt. Ltd. No significant discovery in Kalahandi, Bolangir and Nuapada districts over an area of 1733 sq.km.

Madhya De Beers India Pros. Pvt. Ltd. No significant discovery in Rewa district over an area of 1590 sq.km.

Pradesh

Karnataka De Beers Survey Pvt. Ltd. No discoveries in Bellary, Chitradurga and Davangere districts over an area of 1966.20 sq.km.

-do- No discoveries and results not encouraging in Gulbarga & Raichur district over an area of 1000 sq.km.

-do- 13 Kimberlites discovered in Gulbarga district over an area of 2000.5 sq.km However, results indicated that they are uneconomical.

-do- No discoveries in Chitradurga over an area of 817.5 sq.km.

-do- 16 Kimberlite pipes discovered. However, results indicated that they are uneconomical.

Chhattisgarh De Beers India Survey P. Ltd. No Kimberlite discovered in Raipur and Mahasamund districts over an area of 2000 sq.km.

-do- No Kimberlite and the results were not encouraging in Durg district over an area of 2000 sq.km.

-do- No Kimberlites and the results were not encouraging in Rajnandgaon and Durg districts over an area of 1975 sq.km.

De Beers India Survey P.Ltd. No discoveries and the results were not encouraging in Raipur and Mahasamund districts over an area of 1000 sq.km.

Jindal Steel and Power Ltd. Stream sediment samples collected over an area of 2500 sq.km.

Uttar Pradesh De-Beers India Pros. Pvt. Ltd. Exploration is in progress in Chitrakoot over an area of 1390 sq.km.

Besides the above, the Airborne Mineral Survey and Exploration (AMSE) Wing of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has, since its inception in 1965, carried out aerial surveys. A total area of 4,21,917 sq.km. has been flown in geologically favourable zones for targeting mineral resources which include rural and backward areas. Outcome of the work pertaining to the flying area is as under:-

State    Status /outcome

Maharashtra    Aerogeophysical data for Nagpur-Wardha valley for coal exploration under process.

Orissa    Aerogeophysical data for Baihar-Kutru area, for basemetal and gold mineralisation under process.

Andhra Pradesh

(i) Multisensor aerogeophysical data for generation of total magnetic and radiometric map has been /Karnataka completed for Bangalore-Penkunda area in parts of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka for possible occurrence of Kimberlite and Gold mineralisation.

(ii) Aerogeophysical data in Mulabagal - Tambalapalle area, in parts of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh and Mahboobnagar block completed. 31 blocks demarcated for base-metal and Gold mineralisation.