

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5033
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2014
ATOMIC MINERALS DEPOSITS .
Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay"

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the atomic minerals deposits in the country ;
- (b) whether the mineral deposits are proposed to be used for any purpose other than power generation;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefore?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) As of May, 2014, Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has established 2,11,473 tonne in situ U₃O₈ (1,79,329 tonne Uranium) reserves and 11.93 million tonne of in- situ resources of Monazite containing about 1.07 million tonnes of Thorium Oxide (ThO₂), in the country.

(b) Yes. Sir.

(c) Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL) a 100% owned Government of India Undertaking under the administrative control of the DAE is having three mining and mineral separation plants at Manavalakurichi, Tamil Nadu, Chavara, Kerala, and OSCOM, Odisha for producing atomic minerals from beach sand. In addition to power generation, atomic minerals find uses in various industrial applications such as manufacturing of Titanium dioxide (TiO₂) pigment, flux in welding electrodes, titanium metal, ceramics, sanitary wares, electronic capacitors etc.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.