

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:620
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2014
URANIUM AND THORIUM MINES
Dhurve Smt. Jyoti;Kachhadia Shri Naranbhai

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of Uranium Mines functioning in the country and the average annual uranium production from the mines and the quality thereof;
- (b) the State-wise details of new uranium and thorium mines, explored by the Atomic Minerals Directorate;
- (c) the State-wise likely average annual production from all these new uranium and thorium mines; and
- (d) the funds released for exploration of uranium and thorium mines during the years 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir. In accordance with Section 3 of the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 only the Central Government or Corporation established by it or a Government company, are authorized to produce, develop, use a prescribed substance. Uranium being a prescribed substance, has thus been exclusively reserved for the Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), to mine and process uranium. UCIL is presently operating the following Uranium Mines in India:

Mines	State
Jaduguda	Jharkhand
Bhatin	Jharkhand
Narwapahar	Jharkhand
Turamdih	Jharkhand
Bagjata	Jharkhand
Bandhuhurang	Jharkhand
Mohuldih	Jharkhand

It is not in the public interest to disclose the quantity of production of uranium from these mines.

(b) The details of projects envisaged for commercial production of uranium are:

- i. Uranium mine at Tummalapalle, Kadappa district, Andhra Pradesh
- ii. Lambapur uranium project at Lambapur, Nalgonda District, Andhra Pradesh
- iii. Uranium mine at Gogi in Gulbarga District, Karnataka.
- iv. Kylleng Pyndengsohiong Mawathabah (KPM) Project in West Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya.

Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of DAE, has established Beach Sand Mineral Deposits containing the mineral Monazite along the coastal tracts in parts of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The state-wise resources of in-situ monazite established by AMD are as follows:

State	Monazite (Million tonne)
Odisha	2.41
Andhra Pradesh	3.72
Tamil Nadu	2.46
Kerala	1.90
West Bengal	1.22
Jharkhand	0.22
Total	11.93

Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), a Public Sector Undertaking under DAE has been producing monazite, a mineral containing thorium from its mining and mineral separation plants located at Chavara, Kerala; Manavalakurichi, Tamil Nadu and Orissa Sand Complex, Odisha. Indian monazite has an average content of about 9-10% of Thorium Oxide.

(c) It is not in the public interest to disclose the quantity of production of uranium.

(d) Details of funds released for exploration are :

Year	Rupees in crore
2010-11	115.52
2011-12	129.70
2012-13	65.20