

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3474
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2014
SHORTAGE OF MINERALS
Ashok Kumar Shri K.

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has details of shortage of mineral commodities like apatite rock phosphate, manganese ore etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, mineral-wise; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by the Government along with the details of guidelines framed for raw material security in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

(a) to (b): The degree of self-sufficiency in respect of minerals in 2012-13 is given at Annexure.

(c): With the liberalization of mineral sector since 1993 which led to public private sector participation, mineral production depends broadly on-availability of mineral resources, economic viability, demand of market etc.

The Government has enunciated the National Mineral Policy, 2008, which inter alia lays down policy decision like streamlining and simplifying the procedures for grant of mineral concessions and transparency in allotment of concessions, in order to reduce delays which are seen as impediments to investment and technology flow in the mining sector in India. The policy also provides for research and development in the mineral sector directed towards the development of new technologies for conversion of existing mineral resources into viable economic resources and improvement of regulatory environment to make it more conducive to investment and technology flows and strengthening Geology Survey of India (GSI), Indian Bureau of Mines and the State Directorates of Mining & Geology with man power and state of the art equipment and skill set.

The above policy initiatives is providing suitable environment for optimum exploitation of the mineral potential of the country. GSI is taking up measures to increase the mineral exploration activity at deeper levels to solve the mineral shortage crisis. GSI alongwith Atomic Minerals Directorate, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, State Directorates of Geology and Mining, State/ Central Undertakings and private enterprises are engaged in detailed exploration to identify mineral deposits. GSI is intensifying exploration activities for locating concealed and deep-seated mineral deposits in known mineral belts and also in identified new prospective areas, for which GSI has given emphasis for collection of base line data, which includes geological, geochemical and geophysical mapping (including aerogeophysical, multispectral and hyperspectral mapping using data from airborne satellite sensors) which will be used for mineral production. GSI has further taken the following steps for accelerating mineral exploration to assess mineral resources:

(i) Government restructured GSI in October 2011 and created 1353 technical posts.

(ii) Introduction of high precision gravimeter, total field magnetometer for geophysical surveys and state-of-the-art chemical analyses instruments for generating precise elemental data.

Annexure referred in reply to Lok Sabha unstarred question number 3474 for reply on 15.12.2014 regarding 'Shortage of Minerals' asked by Shri K. Ashok Kumar

Degree of Self-sufficiency in Principal Minerals, 2012-13 (R)

Commodity	Demand/ consumption ('000 tonnes)	Domestic Production/ Domestic supply ('000 tonnes)	Order of self- sufficiency(%)
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Asbestos (chrysotile)	104	++	++
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Barytes	186	1739	100
Bauxite	11019	15360	100
Chromite	2602	2950	100
Dolomite	6805	6713	100

Felspar	465	1291	100
Fireclay	480	817	100
Fluorite	63	3	5
Ilmenite	191	738	100
Iron ore	103399	136019	100
Kyanite	3	1	33
Limestone & other	259314	279972	100
Magnesite	490	213	44
Manganese ore	4177	2322	56
Rock phosphate	4221	2125	50
Rutile	26	16	62
Silica minerals	2285	5096	100
Sillimanite	20	44	100
Talc/steatite/			
Pyrophyllite	368	1184	100
Wollastonite	4	142	100

P: Provisional; ++: Negligible
Source: Indian Bureau of Mines