

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1467
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2018

AERIAL SURVEY BY GSI ON BASE METALS

1467. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that base metals like lead, zinc have been found in Gollapalle in Cuddapah district of Andhra Pradesh as per the aerial survey conducted by GSI, NGRI, Atomic Mineral Directorate, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the benefits of such metals and the plan of action of the Government to explore the same?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND COAL
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): Multi-sensor airborne geophysical surveys have been carried out by Geological Survey of India [GSI] and National Geophysical Research Institute [NGRI] in different parts of the country.

The aero-magnetic anomalies had indicated sulphide mineralisation in Gollapalle, Kottapalle, Chikatavaripalle area about 5 km southeast of Zangamrajupalle. Detailed integrated surveys revealed lead zinc mineralisation in Gollapalle, Kottapalle, Chikatavaripalle Blocks. Subsequently, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Mines, carried out exploration for Lead and Zinc (Pb & Zn) in Zangamrajupalle (Gollapalle block) during 1985 and a total of 3.47 million tonnes of resource was estimated at an average grade of 3.44% (Pb & Zn). The exploration work was stopped due to submergence of block in Telugu Ganga Project.

Lead is one of the most widely used metals and it is widely used in lead-acid batteries. Other significant uses included oxides in glass and ceramics, casting metals, bearing metals, brass and sheet lead etc. Zinc is mostly consumed as metal in the galvanizing industry, as alloying metal to make bronze and brass, as zinc-based die casting alloy, and as rolled zinc. Zinc oxide is widely used in the manufacture of many products such as paints, rubber, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, plastics, inks, soaps, batteries, textiles and electrical equipment.

GSI is carrying out aero-geophysical surveys in different areas of the country for mineral exploration including base-metals. Further, it takes up regular mineral investigation programme on different commodities including base-metals in different parts of the country. The aero-geophysical data wherever available are used as an added information for prognostication of different mineral commodities.
