

PARLIAMENT QUESTION: URANIUM OXIDE RESOURCE IN THE COUNTRY

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Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), has a mandate to identify and evaluate mineral resources of uranium, thorium, niobium, tantalum, beryllium, lithium, zirconium, titanium and rare earths containing uranium and thorium. AMD has carried out exploration and prospecting for augmentation of uranium oxide resource in a number of prospective geological domains of the country. As on date, AMD has established 4,33,800 tonnes in-situ U₃O₈ resource in 47 uranium deposits located in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Mining of Jaduguda uranium deposit started in 1967 by M/s. Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL). In recent years, AMD has established 26,437 tonnes in-situ U-oxide resource at Jaduguda North - Baglasai-Mechua deposit, East Singhbhum district, Jharkhand; which is towards north of the Jaduguda main ore body and in the area between Jaduguda and Bhatin mine. The life of the mine is expected to increase substantially due to this discovery of new deposits.

This information was given by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences, MoS PMO, MoS Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, in a written reply in the Rajya Sabha today.

NKR/PSM

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