

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. *353
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.12.2015

URANIUM SOURCES

*353. SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) has explored some more uranium reserves and if so, the details thereof, Statewise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to upgrade the exploration capacity of AMD and also induct new/latest technologies for mapping purpose;
- (c) if so, the details and financial implications thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the exploration and research capacity of AMD for identifying the uranium reserves in the country?

ANSWER

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

- (a) to (d) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*353 FOR ANSWER ON 23.12.2015 BY SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL REGARDING URANIUM SOURCES

- (a) Yes Sir. During the last six months, Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has proved 4,000 tonnes of *in situ* U₃O₈ (3392 tonnes U) reserves. As of November, 2015, AMD has established 2,29,936 tonnes *in-situ* U₃O₈ (1,94,985 tonnes Uranium) reserves.

State-wise details of the uranium reserves established during the last six months are given below:

State	District	Name of the deposit	Uranium Reserves			
			As on May 2015		As on November 2015	
			U ₃ O ₈ (tonnes)	U (tonnes)	U ₃ O ₈ (tonnes)	U (tonnes)
Andhra Pradesh	Kadapa	Tummalapalle-Rachakuntapalle	98,952	83,911	1,02,952	87,303

[1 tonne of U₃O₈ = 0.848 tonnes of uranium metal]

- (b) & (c) Yes Sir. The Government has already initiated modernization of exploration capacity of AMD by procuring state-of-the-art instruments/equipments like Hydrostatic drill rigs, Mobile geochemical vans, Heliborne Time Domain Electro-Magnetic (TDEM) system, Seismic Reflection-Refraction system, GPS based magnetometer, Video-conferencing system and Multi-para borehole logging system, ICP-OES etc. in the early years of XII Plan. The Government has already approved a total Plan Outlay for AMD to the tune of Rs.831.48 crore for XII Plan period (2012-2017).
- (d) To increase the exploration and research capacity of AMD for identifying additional uranium reserves in the country, the Government has formulated new projects involving Rs.831.48 crore during XII Plan period (2012-2017). The capacity increase includes enhancement of (i) drilling meterage by departmental machines, (ii) heliborne and ground geophysical surveys, and (iii) analytical support with the help of latest state-of-the-art instruments/equipments.
