

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO : 103
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04/03/2010**

URANIUM MINING IN ANDHRA PRADESH AND MEGHALAYA

***103 SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:**

WILL THE PRIME MINISTER BE PLEASED TO STATE:

- (a) the status of Uranium Mining by the Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) in Andhra Pradesh and Meghalaya;
- (b) the estimated uranium reserves in these area; and
- (c) the constrains if any, in starting Uranium mining in the area and steps taken by Government to address the same?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), PMO, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS.
(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):**

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(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO RAJYA SABHA STARRED
QUESTION NO. 103 BY SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN REGARDING URANIUM
MINING IN ANDHRA PRADESH AND MEGHALAYA**

- (a) Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) is constructing a new mine and processing plant at Tummalapalle in the Kadappa District of Andhra Pradesh. It is also proposed to set up new mines and processing plant at Lambapur-Peddagattu in the Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh and at Kylleng Pyndengsohiong Mawthabah in West Khasi hills district, Meghalaya. These projects are being processed for approvals and would start after due approval from the State Government and the Government of India.
- (b) Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD) of the Department of Atomic Energy has so far established uranium resources amounts to 17,252 tonnes in Meghalaya and 60,244 tonnes in Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Proposed Projects in Andhra Pradesh & Meghalaya have been held up due to:
- i) Lambapur Project was held up due to an appeal filed by an NGO against the environmental clearance for the mines granted by MoEF. The matter was pending before the National Environment Appellate Authority (NEAA). Pursuant to the dismissal of the appeal, the Detailed Project Report has been revised and is being further processed.
 - ii) Kylleng Pyndengsohiong, Mawthabh – The major constraint for the Project has been environment, economic and health concerns perceived by some NGOs and local people. The Department of Atomic Energy and Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) have for the last five years been regularly conducting Awareness Programme to clear the misconceptions regarding uranium mining in West Khasi hills of Meghalaya and also addressing the economic and environmental concerns. Visits to the operating units of UCIL in Jaduguda were also arranged to provide assurance on safety and best environment management practices adopted by UCIL.
