

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1866
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.08.2011

URANIUM DISCOVERED IN TUMMALAPALLE

1866. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of uranium has been discovered in the Tumalapalle region in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of action plan of Government to use this uranium in our Reactors and also to commercially exploit the same; and
- (d) to what extent would this new finding of uranium help the country to reduce its dependence on other countries for import of enriched uranium?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND
IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent Unit of the Department of Atomic Energy, has so far established the presence of 63,269 tonnes of uranium resources (U_3O_8) in Tumallapalle area, Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh.
- (c) The Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking under Department of Atomic Energy, has undertaken the construction of an underground mine and plant of 3000 tonnes per day (tpd) ore capacity which is expected to be commissioned in the year 2012. The pre-project activities for augmenting the production and processing capacity to 4500 tpd ore are in progress and expected to be commissioned in the year 2015. Further plans have been envisaged to construct a mine and a plant of 6000 tpd ore capacity (in stages) after successful commissioning of the ongoing project.
- (d) The indigenous uranium will help India to increase nuclear installed capacity, thereby, providing more electricity for economic growth of the country.
