

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2483**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.08.2011

**URANIUM MINE IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

2483. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Department had discovered a huge reserve of Uranium in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it took more than four years to discover this huge deposits of Uranium; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for the long duration it took to discover this huge deposit of Uranium?

**ANSWER**

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

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- (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 83,538 tonnes of uranium resources ( $U_3O_8$ ) in Andhra Pradesh. The details of the same are as given below:

NAME OF THE DEPOSIT	URANIUM RESOURCES ESTABLISHED (TONNES $U_3O_8$ )
LAMBAPUR	1,450
PEDDAGATTU	7,585
TUMMALAPALLE –RACHAKUNTAPALLE	63,269
KOPPUNURU	2,761
CHITRIAL	8,473
SUB-TOTAL	83,538

[ 1 TONNE OF  $U_3O_8$  = 0.848 TONNES OF URANIUM METAL ]

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) AMD has been carrying out exploration in Tumallapalle area since the year 1986. Initially, it was observed that the recovery was not economical by conventional acid leaching techniques due to carbonate rocks formation. However, further R&D efforts carried out in establishing effective leaching techniques enabled commencement of 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of exploration in the year 2007. The Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL), a Public Sector Undertaking of this Department is currently undertaking construction of mine and mill at Tumallapalle for exploitation and processing of the uranium ore. The time taken for opening of the mine and setting up of the mineral processing plant is reasonable.

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