

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3877**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.09.2011

**URANIUM MINE IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

3877. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has discovered that the upcoming uranium mine in Andhra Pradesh's Tumulapalli was about 49,000 tonnes quantity;
- (b) whether it is estimated that abovementioned deposits could go up to around 1.5 lakh tonnes, which would make it among the world's largest uranium mines;
- (c) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (d) the time bound programmes/plans of Government to extract indigenous uranium from these mines keeping in view Nuclear Power Corporation's plans to built fourteen nuclear plants of 700 mw capacity each?

**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)&(c) Yes, Sir. The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent Unit of the Department of Atomic Energy has established the presence of 63,269 tonnes of Uranium resources ( $U_3O_8$ ) in Tumulapalle area, Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh upto a depth of 500 m. Another additional 39,000 tonnes are expected to be established in the adjacent unexplored areas. It is also expected that an additional deposits to the tune of 50,000 tonnes may be available between 500 m to 800 m depth as per geological continuity of the mineralized host rock. Thus, the Tumulapalle has a potential of 1,50,000 tonnes of uranium resources in 15 km. x 3 km. belt under exploration upto a depth of 800 m.
- (d) 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.

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