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Bhatin	Jharkhand
Narwahpahar	Jharkhand
Turamdih	Jharkhand
Banduhurang	Jharkhand
Bagjata	Jharkhand

Quantum of production of uranium in the country is not disclosed in public interest

(b) and (c) Uranium Mines presently under construction and under consideration are:-

Mines under construction	State
Mohuldih	Jharkhand
Tummalapalle	Andhra Pradesh
Lambapur-Pedagattu	Andhra Pradesh
KPM	Meghalaya
Gogi	Karnataka

Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research has established approx 10.21 million tonnes of Monazite resources in the States of Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Orissa and Bihar which contain about 9 to 10% of ThO₂ and about 8,07,713 tonne of Thorium metal can be recovered from these sources.

(d) For scientific research and survey towards finding uranium and thorium, funds have been released as follows:

Year	(Rupees in crore)
2005-2006	17.72
2006-2007	19.95
2007-2008	44.06

Turamdih and Domiasiat mines

1089. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to media reports about the mismanagement of two major projects—Turamdih mines in Jharkhand and Domiasat mines (130 Kms. from Shillong) in Meghalaya;

(b) whether it is a fact that his Department sat on huge reserves all these years while nuclear plants in the country went low on fuel and Government looked abroad for its requirements; and

(c) the reasons for neglect of the mines by the Uranium Corporation of India Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Turamdih Mine which was under construction was closed in 1992-93 due to financial crunch and consequent reduction in plan outlay. Thereafter Turamdih Mine was commissioned in September, 2003 before scheduled date of commissioning within the approved cost. In Meghalaya Domiasiat (KPM), an open cast mine and a mill has been planned. Community Development activities by way of roads, primary health centre etc. have been taken up by Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL). Approval of the project will be taken up only after all clearances are obtained and investment decision taken by Govt. Viable uranium reserves in the country have been taken up by UCIL. UCIL is operating 6 mines in Jharkhand. One mine in Jharkhand and one mine in Andhra Pradesh are under construction. Reports in some section of media are not correct.

Recommendation of Shankar Committee

1090. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State of Rajasthan is getting coal for power generation from coal fields located far away, resulting in higher freight cost;

(b) whether State Government has represented to the Centre, in this context;

(c) whether Government is considering to allocate coal from the nearby coal mines;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the recommendations of Shankar Committee and follow-up action thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA): (a) to (d) Power stations of Rajasthan are getting coal predominantly from the coal fields of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) located in Chhattisgarh and from Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL) located in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Ministry of Coal receives representations from time to time from various consumers, including State Governments, for rationalization of source from nearest coal company.

The Standing Linkage Committee (Short Term), an inter-ministerial Committee comprising of representatives of Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Railways and representatives of coal companies allocate coal from producing companies to various power utilities, including power utilities located in Rajasthan, keeping in view, *inter-alia*, their proximity from the coal fields, coal availability, qualitative requirement as per the Ministry of Environment