

### Shifting of GSI

2102. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) why Government proposes to shift Geological Survey of India (GSI) from Kolkata to other States;

(b) why Government has wound up GSI's traditional coal unit, the most profitable unit to facilitate private sector; and

(c) what national interest has been served by this act?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) There is no proposal under consideration before the Government to shift Geological Survey of India (GSI) to any other States.

(b) and (c) The traditional Coal Unit of GSI has not been wound up. Consequent to the acceptance of recommendations of the High Powered Committee on revamping of GSI set up by the Government, a new system of functioning in GSI had been introduced in the Mission-Region Matrix from Field Season 2009-10. Under this restructuring, Coal Wing is now designated as Natural Resource Assessment -Energy Division (NRA-E). All planning, programming and monitoring activities of coal related work in the country shall be coordinated through NRA-E located at Kolkata. The coal exploration work shall be the responsibility of the respective Operational Directorates established under Mission-II in each Region. This is done for better control and effective monitoring from the Regional Headquarters.

### Mineral reserves

2103. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the mineral reserve areas, State/UT-wise and mineral-wise;

(b) the percentage out of the reserved areas exploited, so far;

(c) the details of target set and achieved during the Eleventh Five Year Plan for extraction of the minerals, State/UT-wise and mineral-wise;

(d) whether Government has any policy for extraction and exploitation of mineral deposit areas;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and