

Uranium Reserves in Himachal Pradesh

†2515. SHRI JANARDAN DWIVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an indication of uranium reserve in Jakhuni village of Kangra district in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for its confirmation; and

(c) by when it would be confirmed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Ground and Hydrogeochemical surveys have indicated low to medium order uranium anomalies at Maira about 2 Km. North of the Jakhuni in Kangra District, Himachal Pradesh.

(b) Necessary tests to probe the sub-surface uranium mineralisation are in progress.

(c) To establish the uranium deposit about 5 to 8 years of time is required depending upon the geological complexity/nature of uranium mineralisation.

Investment by CIL in foreign countries

†2516. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Limited has taken a decision to make investment in the coal mining in some foreign countries;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the names of the countries the proposals of which are still under consideration for making investment in the coal mining;

(c) the maximum amount proposed to be invested therein; and

(d) the reasons for giving priority to the foreign mining instead of domestic mining?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DĀSARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.