

and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession Rules, 1960. For minerals specified in the First Schedule to the MMDR Act, 1957, before granting the Mineral concession, approval of Central Government is necessary. The terms and conditions of Reconnaissance Permit (RP), Prospecting Licence (PL) and Mining Lease (ML) are prescribed under the MMDR Act and the Rules framed thereunder. Before allowing grant of RP/PL/ML, the State Governments ensure compliance of amended provisions of the Act and Rules and other applicable Acts and Rules including Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and Environmental Notification dated 27.01.1994 as issued and amended by Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Uranium reserves

†3260. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to acquire Uranium reserves situated in other countries;

(b) if so, the names of the countries where Uranium reserves are likely to be acquired;

(c) if not, whether Uranium reserves are being explored in the country itself for the supply of Uranium; and

(d) if so, the States where this work is being carried out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): (a) and (b) Presently, no proposal for acquisition of Uranium reserves abroad is under consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) Survey and exploration activities are going on in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Meghalaya, Karnataka, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh to identify additional reserves of Uranium in our country.

Construction of nuclear power plants in Rajasthan

†3261. SHRI ASHK ALI TAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Rajasthan where construction work of nuclear power plants is going on;

(b) the time by when their construction is likely to be completed; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.