

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF ATOMIC ENERGY**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 19.11.2009**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**EXPANSION OF OSCOM**

3

Smt. Renubala Pradhan

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether there is any proposal for expansion of the Orissa Sand Complex (OSCOM) and to add some more new units in the OSCOM;
- (b) if so, the details of the investment proposal; and
- (c) the steps that have been taken by the IREL to reduce the radiation in the area?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (INDEPENDENT CHARGES), PMO, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS.

(SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, there is a proposal for

(i) Expansion of the Orissa Sand Complex (OSCOM) and

(ii) Setting up a new Monazite Processing Plant.

(b) Yes, there is a proposal for

(i) Increase the capacity of the existing Mining & Mineral Separation unit from its present capacity of 2,20,000 tpa to 5,00,000 tpa of Ilmenite and associated minerals. Total investment proposed is Rs.148.00 crore (approximately)

(ii) To put up a 10,000 tpa Monazite processing Plant (MOPP). Total investment as approved in the XI Plan is Rs.90.00 crore.

(c) A full fledged health physics unit (HPU) of BARC is located within the campus of IREL OSCOM unit for taking care of radiological activities within & outside the plant premises. Atomic Energy Regulatory Board is also monitoring the compliance of statutory radiological protection provisions of OSCOM Unit.