

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF MINES

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO 06.12.2010

ANSWERED ON

. REVIVAL OF KOLAR GOLD FIELDS MINES .

2868

Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda

Will the Minister of COALMINES be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government proposes to revive the Kolar Gold Fields Mines which are estimated to yield 10 tonnes of gold annually for the next 15 years;
- (b) whether any study has been made to find out reserves lying unexploited in these mines; and
- (c) whether the state-of-the-art mining technologies would be adopted to keep mining operations less costlier and to get maximum yield of gold?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION

(SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE)

- (a) No, Sir. The highest ever production of gold at Bharat Gold Mines Ltd. (Kolar Gold Fields) was 2.20 tonnes in the year 1976-77 and the production of gold at the time of its closure in the year 1999-2000 was only 0.43. tones.
- (b) No study has been made to find out reserves lying unexploited in these mines after closure of the operations of BGML in the year 2001. Before closure of the operations, a study was undertaken, through Consultants, to assess the gold contained in the mining dumps lying on surface, in the year 1997-98. As regards the gold available in the under ground reserves, it requires detailed exploratory drilling which has not been carried out for a long time. After closure of the mines in 2000 the mines are fully inundated with water. Any exploratory drilling requires not only dewatering, but development of underground infrastructure as well.
- (c) Does not arise.