

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2205
ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

QUANTUM OF LITHIUM RESERVES FOUND IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

2205. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the quantum of lithium reserves found by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Jammu and Kashmir;
- (b) whether GSI has found lithium reserves in other States as well, if so, State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether it has been ascertained if all the reserves are extractable and expected timeline for doing so;
- (d) if so, the estimated quantum of lithium-ion manufacturing that the reserves can support;
- (e) the quantum and monetary value of lithium and lithium-ion imported by the country in the last five years, country-wise and year-wise;
- (f) whether estimated decrease in import dependency associated with these reserves has been ascertained; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

- (a): GSI carried out a G3 stage mineral exploration project during Field Season 2020-21 and 2021-22 in Salal-Haimna areas of Reasi district, Jammu & Kashmir and estimated an inferred resource (G3) of 5.9 million tonnes of lithium ore and the report has been handed over to the Government of Union Territory of J&K.
- (b): No, Sir. Lithium resource is not yet established by GSI in any other State except Reasi district of Jammu & Kashmir.
- (c): The extractable reserve will be established by the lessee after auction of the block. The likely date of extraction of lithium will also depend upon successful auction of the blocks.
- (d): The estimated quantum of lithium-ion manufacturing that the reserves can support will be known after lessee has estimated extractable resources.
- (e): The quantum and monetary value of lithium and lithium-ion imported by the country during the period from 2017-18 to 2022-23 (Apr-Jan), country-wise and year-wise, is given Annexure I.
- (f) & (g): Impact on import dependency will depend upon estimation of extractable resources and production once production starts.

Annexure I

Table: Import of Lithium (HS Code 85065000) and Lithium-ion (HS Code 85076000) during the period from 2017-18 to 2022-23 (Apr-Jan)

Unit: '000 Numbers

Year	Lithium(HS Code 85065000) (under 8506: Primary cells & primary batteries)			Lithium-ion(HS Code 85076000) (under 8507: Electric accumulators, including separators therefor, whether or not rectangular (including square))		
	Qty	Value (Rs. Crore)	Top five source countries (in value terms)	Qty	Value (Rs. Crore)	Top five source countries (in value terms)
2017-18	129,508.52	1156.15	China (89%), Korea RP (2%), Hong Kong (2%), Indonesia (2%), Israel (2%), Others (4%)	183,815.90	3532.01	China (92%), Vietnam (2%), Hong Kong (1%), Korea RP (1%), USA (1%), Others (2%)
2018-19	85,224.15	202.40	Hong Kong (35%),China (28%),Singapore (9%),Korea RP (8%),Indonesia (7%),Others (13%)	627,352.60	8574.08	China (63%),Hong Kong (22%), Vietnam (9%), USA (2%), Japan (1%), Others (3%)
2019-20	72,375.54	147.08	Hong Kong (33%),China (20%), Singapore (11%), Indonesia (8%), Korea RP (8%),Others (19%)	539,427.50	8818.61	China (53%),Hong Kong (28%), Vietnam (11%),Japan (2%),Korea RP (2%), Others (3%)
2020-21	71,392.13	172.87	China (32%), Hong Kong (26%), Singapore (9%), Korea RP (8%), USA (5%), Others (19%)	516,733.35	8811.45	China (59%),Hong Kong (29%), Vietnam (6%),Japan (3%),Singapore (1%), Others (3%)
2021-22	84,996.69	165.08	Hong Kong (31%), China (28%), USA (9%), Indonesia (8%), Singapore (7%),Others (18%)	616,768.14	13673.15	China (61%),Hong Kong (25%),Korea RP (4%), Singapore (3%),Japan (2%), Others (4%)
2022-23 (Apr-Jan)	83,094.57	208.98	China (30%), Hong Kong (25%), Indonesia (11%), Korea RP (7%), Singapore (6%),Others (22%)	691,584.42	18554.12	China (76%),Hong Kong (11%),Korea RP (9%),Vietnam (1%), Singapore (1%),Others (2%)

Source: Department of Commerce.