

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. - 3865
ANSWERED ON 06/04/2023

DEEP SEA EXPLORATION AND SAMUDRAYAN PROJECT

3865. SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the budget allocated, disbursed and spent on the Samudrayan project since its launch;
- (b) whether Government has data on the deep sea explorations undertaken since the launch of the Project, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has information on the findings by such explorations; if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
ANDEARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) Samudrayaan Project was launched in September, 2021 under Deep Ocean Mission. Details on the budget allocated, disbursed and spent on the Samudrayaan Project since its launch is Rs 119 cr.
- (b) Yes Sir. During December 2022, Deep Ocean Exploration for Polymetallic Manganese Nodule at Central Indian Ocean basin preliminary trial was conducted at a depth of 5270 m using Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (Ocean Mineral Explorer – 6000 – OMe 6000) to acquire geophysical, oceanographic and seabed characteristics.
- (c) Yes Sir. MoES/NCPOR has collected comprehensive oceanographic, geophysical, geological, and biological data in the deep-sea regions of mid-ocean ridges in the Indian Ocean to explore potential locations of multi-metal hydrothermal sulphides. The analysis, integration and interpretation of the collected data revealed multiple locales of potential hydrothermal venting and mineralization on the seafloor of the Indian Ocean. Additionally, several new biological species have also been mapped and identified.
