

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2663
ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025

GOLD RESERVES IN WEST BENGAL

2663. SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific locations within Midnapore, Bankura, Purulia, and Jhargram districts where the GSI has identified potential gold deposits, and the current status of these exploration projects;
- (b) the estimated quantities of gold reserves discovered in these areas, if any, and as compare to previous estimates;
- (c) the timeline and phases planned by the GSI for the completion of exploration and the commencement of potential mining activities in these regions; and
- (d) the budgetary allocations made for these exploration projects in the State of West Bengal, and whether there are plans for additional funding to expedite the processes?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) & (d): The Geological Survey of India (GSI), during its last five field seasons i.e. 2019-20 to 2023-24, took up 10 mineral exploration projects on gold (both as primary and associated commodity) in Bankura, Purulia, Darjeeling, Kalimpong, and Jhargram Districts of West Bengal. During current field season 2024-25, GSI has taken up 2 mineral exploration projects on gold in Kalimpong and Bankura Districts of West Bengal. The location-wise details of these 12 mineral exploration projects along with their budgetary allocations/total field expenditure incurred by GSI are given at Annexure-I. Funding for exploration projects is provided as per requirement.

(b) & (c): The 10 mineral exploration projects taken up by GSI during field seasons 2019-20 to 2023-24 are completed. The 2 mineral exploration projects in Kalompong and Bankura Districts, West Bengal undertaken by GSI during current field season 2024-25 are scheduled to be completed within stipulated time. GSI has not augmented any resource for gold from these mineral exploration projects and hence, question on commencement of potential mining activities in these regions does not arise.

The location-wise details of mineral exploration projects for gold taken up by GSI in West Bengal along with budgetary allocations/total field expenditure incurred by GSI

Sl No.	Field Season	District	Name of Mineral Block / Area/ Belt	UNFC Stage	Mineral Commodity	Total Field Expenditure (in lakhs)
1.	2019-20	Bankura	Ambikapur-Ranibandh-Porapahar	G4	Gold	5.0
2.	2020-21	Purulia	Balarampur	G4	Tungsten, Tin, Rare Earth Elements (REE), Basemetal & Gold	18.0
3.	2020-21	Darjeeling	Munsang	G4	Gold	
4.	2020-21	Kalimpong	Samthar-Deorali pit	G4	Gold	
5.	2022-23	Bankura and Jhargram	Maisamura and Shrinathpur	G4	Gold	15.02
6.	2022-23	Bankura	Rajbandh-Rajapathar	G4	Gold	
7.	2022-23	Bankura	Durlabhpur-Gangajalghati	G4	Gold	
8.	2023-24	Bankura and Jhargram	Sirisgora, Laupal and Kalapati	G4	Gold	17.45
9.	2023-24	Purulia	Pargela and Dandudih	G4	Gold, REE	
10.	2023-24	Purulia	Chatarma-Malti-Burudih	G4	Gold, Basemetal	
11.	2024-25	Kalimpong	Algarah-Labha	G4	Gold	16.41
12.	2024-25	Bankura	Hansadungri	G3	Gold	