

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1182
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2022

AUCTION OF BLOCKS

†1182. SHRI DILESHWAR KAMAIT:
SHRIMATI NAVNEET RAVI RANA:
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR PINTU:
MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRI AJAY KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of MINES be please to state:

- (a) whether the Government has handed over 100 blocks of various minerals to 14 States for auction at the survey level;
- (b) if so, the State-wise number of blocks along with the names of proposed minerals;
- (c) the number of blocks of Potassium and Chromium handed over to Bihar, West Bengal and Maharashtra including the district-wise number and details of blocks handed over;
- (d) the number of estimated reserves of Potassium and Chromium in Bihar, West Bengal and Maharashtra;
- (e) the conditions and the purpose under which the said blocks have been provided to Bihar, West Bengal and Maharashtra; and
- (f) whether the Government is likely to provide financial assistance to Bihar, West Bengal and Maharashtra in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Geological Survey of India [GSI], an attached office of Ministry of Mines has handed over 179 nos. of resource bearing G2 [general exploration]/ G3 [preliminary exploration] reports and Mineral Exploration & Consultancy Limited [MECL], a PSU of Ministry of Mines has handed over 51 nos. of resource bearing G2 [general exploration]/ G3 [preliminary exploration] reports to the concerned State Governments for auction. The details are placed at Annexure-I. Further, GSI has also handed over 252 nos. of G4 [reconnaissance survey] geological memorandums of various minerals to the concerned State Governments for auction. The details are placed at Annexure-II.

(c): 9 nos. of geological memorandums [G4] on Potash (Glaucinite) and Chromium (with associated other minerals) pertaining to Bihar and Maharashtra have been handed over the State Governments. The details are given in Annexure-III.

Further, 2 nos. geological reports (G3) on Potash (Glauconite) have been handed over to State Government of Bihar for consideration of auctioning of mineral concession. The details are placed at Annexure-IV.

(d): As per National Mineral Inventory, as on 01.04.2020, the total resource of Potash in the State of Bihar is 230 million tonnes and all resources fall in the remaining resources category. No reserves/resources of Chromite is reported in the state of Bihar.

Further, no reserves/resources of Potash is reported in the State of Maharashtra, while, the total resource of Chromite is 538 thousand tonnes, out of which, a total of 5 thousand tonnes fall under reserve category and remaining 533 thousand tonnes fall under remaining resources category.

In the State of West Bengal, no reserves/resources of Potash and Chromite are reported.

(e) & (f): These blocks have been handed over to the State Governments of Bihar and Maharashtra for auction as composite licence. The National Mineral Exploration Trust [NMET], Ministry of Mines gives incentives of Rs.20 Lakh per block to the State Government for successful auctions. The NMET also reimburses 50% cost of auctions up to Rs.5 Lakh per block in case of unsuccessful auction.

State wise / commodity wise number of Geological Reports (G2 & G3) handed over by Geological Survey of India [GSI] to the respective State Governments																					
Sl. No.	State / Commodity	Bauxite	Graphite	Gold	Manganese	Iron ore	Iron & manganese	Base metal	Glauconite	Limestone	Diamond	REE	Copper	Andalusite	PGE	Potash	Glass sand	Magnetite	Molybdenum	Dunite	Total
1	Chhattisgarh	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
2	Madhya Pradesh	1	2	2	2	3	-	7	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
3	Maharashtra	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
4	Odisha	-	-	-	7	16	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
5	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	3
6	Jharkhand	5	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	10
7	Haryana	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
8	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
9	Telangana	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
10	Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2	2	9
11	Karnataka	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	7	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
12	Andhra Pradesh	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
13	Kerala	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
14	Gujarat	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
15	Rajasthan	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	11	-	-	7	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	27
16	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
17	Assam	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
18	Arunachal Pradesh	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total		13	5	5	11	26	2	16	4	58	1	3	15	3	5	6	1	1	2	2	179

**State wise / commodity wise number of Geological Reports (G2 & G3)
handed over by Mineral Exploration & Consultancy Limited [MECL] to the respective State Governments**

State	Bauxite	Copper	Tungsten	Gold	Graphite	Magnesite	Phosphorite	Manganese	Potash	Iron	Limestone	Lead & Zinc	Molybdenum	Fe-Mn nodules	Total
Chhattisgarh	2										2				4
Jharkhand		2		4										1	7
Karnataka				2						1	2				5
Maharashtra		1	1												2
Meghalaya											2				2
Madhya Pradesh											4	1			5
Odisha					1			5		4					10
Rajasthan						1			1		2				4
Tamil Nadu											4		4		8
Telangana											3				3
UP							1								1
Total	2	3	1	6	1	1	1	5	1	5	19	1	4	1	51

State wise / commodity wise number of Geological Memorandums [G4] handed over to the respective State Government																		
SL No	State	Base metal	Gold	Diamond	Graphite	Molybdenum	Chromium/ Nickel & PGE	Bauxite	Iron ore	Limestone	Gypsum	Manganese	Phosphorite	Potash	Tungsten	Andalusite	Lithium	Total
1	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2	Andhra Pradesh	1	-	1	-	-	-	2	8	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	17
3	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
4	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	5
5	Chhattisgarh	-	3	1	2	-	2	6	1	4	2	-	1	2	-	-	1	25
6	Gujarat	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
7	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
8	Jharkhand	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	18
9	Karnataka	-	20	-	-	-	-	4	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
10	Kerala	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
11	Madhya Pradesh	7	2	3	5	1	3	1	-	11	-	4	6	-	-	-	-	43
12	Maharashtra	3	1	-	-	-	5	6	8	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	25
13	Odisha	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	5	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	23
14	Punjab	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
15	Rajasthan	15	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	7	-	5	-	3	1	-	-	35
16	Tamil Nadu	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	11
17	Telangana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	6
18	Uttar Pradesh	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3
19	Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
20	West Bengal	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	Total	29	36	5	11	1	19	23	32	37	3	32	9	10	2	2	1	252

Details of G4 Blocks pertaining to Potash (Glaucanite) and Chromium (with associated other minerals) handed over to Bihar and Maharashtra Governments

SI No.	State	District	Title of the report	No of Blocks	Commodity
1	Bihar	Rohtas	Investigation for fertilizer mineral (Glaucanite) South of Adhaura in Kaimur District. (G-4)	2	Potash (Glaucanite)
2	Bihar	Rohtas			Potash (Glaucanite)
3	Bihar	Rohtas	Reconnaissance survey for Glaucanite in Vindhyan Supergroup, Shahpur-Akbarpur area, Rohtas District, Bihar (G4)	1	Potash (Glaucanite)
4	Bihar	Aurangabad and Gaya	Reconnoitry survey for Cr, Ni & PGE group of elements within mafic-ultramafic suite of rocks in Masuribaad-Pipargarhi-Ahirtola- Genjana sectors of Aurangabad and Gaya districts, Bihar. (G4)	1	Chromium, Nickel & Platinum Group of Elements [Cr, Ni & PGE]
5	Maharashtra	Sindhudurg	Reconnaissance survey for chromite, nickel, iron and manganese mineralization in mafic / ultramafic complex in parts of toposheet 48I/01, 02 and 48E/14 in Vaghmalra and Morle areas of Sindhudurg dist., Maharashtra.	1	Cr, Ni, Iron [Fe] & Manganese [Mn]
6	Maharashtra	Sindhudurg	Report on Preliminary Investigation for targeting causative bodies of NGCM stream sediment composite sample Anomaly Zones of Ni, Cr, Co etc due North Shiroda in Precambrian Terrain of Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra.	1	Ni, Cr & Cobalt [Co]
7	Maharashtra	Sindhudurg	Report on the Preliminary investigation for PGE, Ni, and Cr in the mafic and ultramafics of Kankauli- Janoli area Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra.	1	PGE, Ni & Cr
8	Maharashtra	Sindhudurg	Integrated preliminary investigation for Au, PGE, Ni and Cr in Precambrian terrain of Kudal-Kasal- Kunkavle-Vagde areas of Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra.	2	Gold [Au], PGE, Ni and Cr
9	Maharashtra	Sindhudurg			Au, PGE, Ni and Cr

Details of Geological reports (G3) pertaining to Potash (Glaucanite) handed over to Bihar Government:

SL No.	State	District	Report Title	Commodity
1	Bihar	Rohtas	Preliminary exploration for Glaucanitic Sandstone in Pipradih-Bhurwa Block, Rohtas district, Bihar	Potash (Glaucanite)
2	Bihar	Rohtas	Preliminary exploration for fertilizer mineral (Glaucanite) Chutia-Nauhatta area, Rohtas district, Bihar	Potash (Glaucanite)