

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1148
ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023

LITHIUM MINING

1148. SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any exploration to mine Lithium in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to acquire Lithium mines overseas either through Public or Private or Public-Private Partnership; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): During the last five years, Geological Survey of India [GSI], an attached office of Ministry of Mines, has carried out 20 projects on Lithium and associated elements in Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Rajasthan. During field season programme 2022-23, GSI has taken up 18 projects on Lithium and associated elements in Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Rajasthan. However, resource of lithium has not yet been augmented by GSI. Mineral Exploration & Consultancy Limited, a CPSE under Ministry of Mines has undertaken an exploration project for Lithium in Ladakh. Further, Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research, a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy is carrying out exploration for lithium in parts of Mandya and Yadgir districts, Karnataka.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. Khanij Bidesh India Ltd. (KABIL), a Joint Venture of three CPSEs under Ministry of Mines, is exploring opportunities for investment in Lithium mines in Argentina and Australia.
