GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF MINES LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4202 ANSWERED ON 26.03.2025

POTASH DEPOSITS IN PUNJAB

4202. SHRI GURMEET SINGH MEET HAYER:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any studies have been conducted to identify potash deposits in Punjab and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the estimated quantity and quality of potash reserves found in these areas;

(c) the details of the plan to extract these potash reserves;

(d) whether the extraction involves land acquisition or advanced drilling methods are to be employed to minimize land disruption; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the projected timelines for the commencement and completion of potash extraction operations?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Since the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulations) Amendment Act, 2015, Geological Survey of India (GSI), an attached office of the Ministry of Mines, has taken up 04 nos. of G4 stage exploration projects on potash during field seasons 2016-17 to 2022-23 in Muktsar and Fazilka Districts, Punjab. During these exploration projects, GSI has established reconnaissance resources of potash and the details are given in Annexure. No reserves of potash have been established in Punjab.

(c): Since there are no reserves of potash established in Punjab, plan to extract does not arise.

(d) & (e): In view of (c) above, question does not arise.

Details of Reconnaissance resources of Potash established by GSI in the State of Punjab

Field	Block name	UNFC	Reconnaissance Resource
Season		Stage	
2018-19	Qabrwala Block	G4	5.98 MT K+ with an average grade of 3.90
			K+% at 3.5% cut off.
2019-21	Fazilka and Sri	G4	(i) 409.32 MT at 2% K+ cut off with
	Muktsar Sahib block		average grade of 3.74 K+%,
			(ii) 300.15 MT at 3%K+ cut-off with
			average grade of 4.18 K+%.
			(iii) 194.58 MT at 4%K+ cut-off with
			average grade of 4.69 K+%.
2022-23	Shergarh-Dalmirkhera	G4	(i) 202.45 MT with average grade of 3.42%
	Block		K and 4.11% K2O at 2% cut-off,
			(ii) 22.86 MT with average grade of 6.96%
			K and 8.37 %K2O at 5% cut-off
			(iii) 4.86 MT with average grade of
			10.13%K and 12.19%K2O at 8% cut-off