GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 195
ANSWERED ON 12.03.2025

URANIUM DEPOSITS

*195. SHRI Y. S. AVINASH REDDY

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:-

(a) the details of Uranium rich sites in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
(b) the details of the estimated quantity of Uranium deposits in the said State; and
(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the groundwater problems around the Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL) project around Tummalapalle project area in the Kadapa District of Andhra Pradesh?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

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Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (C) IN RESPECT OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *195 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 12.03.2025 REGARDNG “URAMIUM DEPOSITS” BY SHRI Y. S AVINASH REDDY

(a) to (b)

The Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD), a constituent unit of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), has established two (02) uranium deposits i.e. Tummalapalle Group of deposits in YSR (erstwhile Kadapa) district and Koppunuru deposit in Palnadu (erstwhile Guntur) district of Andhra Pradesh. A total of **2,54,020tonne (t)***in-situ* uranium oxide has been estimated in these deposits, which includes 2,51,259t *in-situ* uranium oxide in Tummalapalle and 2,761t *in-situ* uranium oxide in Koppunuru.

(c) In view to examine various allegations made by the surrounding villagers, extensive in-depth hydro-geological scientific investigations have been carried out by different agencies (Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB), IIT Chennai, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, HPU & M/s. MECON) to find out the root cause of contamination of ground water at Tummalapalle and also find out whether the Uranium Corporation of India (UCIL) Mining Project has played any role in such contamination.

The scientific investigations concluded that there is no discernible dissolved uranium plume emanating from the tailings pond and that the tailings pond is not the probable cause of ground water contamination in the nearby wells. Further, the presence of high groundwater uranium concentration in upstream areas indicated that there is significant contamination of uranium due to natural deposits in the area resulting in poor water quality. It is established from the scientific studies that there is no ground water contamination due to UCIL mining project at Tummalapalle.

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