

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1909
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
RESERVES OF MINERAL WEALTH
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India has lot of reserves of coal, iron ore and manganese for mineral prospects and need huge investments and fast technology; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government for desired investments and technology for exploration of such reserves?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (Dr. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY)

(a) & (b): As per available information, total reserves of coal, iron ore and manganese ore in the country as on 1.4.2005 are given below:

Mineral Reserves (in million tonnes)

Coal (as on 1.1.2007)	255170
Iron ore	7211
Manganese ore	138

For encouraging investment and technology inflow in the mining sector, the National Mineral Policy, 1993 has thrown open the exploration and exploitation of all non-fuel and non-atomic minerals including iron ore & manganese to private investment. Modernization programme for exploration of minerals has been undertaken in Geological Survey of India by acquiring heliborne geophysical system and deep capacity drills.