

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:739

ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008

SHORTAGE OF URANIUM FOR NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS

Khandelwal Shri Hemant;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Singh Shri Dushyant;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

**Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether some of the nuclear power plants in the country are facing shortage of uranium;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the estimated requirement of uranium for each of these nuclear power plants in the country;and
- (c) the steps taken to meet the demand of uranium of these Nuclear Power Projects?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) & (b) Yes,Sir.15 Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors with a total installed capacity of 3800 MWe are facing fuel shortage.The estimated annual fuel requirement is 180 tons of natural uranium per 1000 MWe of installed capacity.

(c) Efforts of the Government have been directed towards augmenting fuel supply for the entire capacity rather than specific plants.A new mine at Turamdih,Jharkhand is operational and a mil! has also been set up.Work on a new mine at Tummalapalle,Andhra Pradesh has been started.Efforts are also being made to open mines at Lambapur (Andhra Pradesh)and Kylleng Pydengsohiong Mawthabah(KPM),Meghalaya.Various activities to set up new mines at Gogi (Karnataka),Rohil(Rajasthan), Wahkyn (Meghalaya) and Chitrial (Andhra Pradesh)are being pursued.In addition,the requirements of reactors to be put under safeguards can be met through imports,progressively,in accordance with the Separation Plan.