

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2031
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16th DECEMBER, 2015
RE-EXTRACTING GOLD FROM KOLAR GOLD MINES**

2031. SHRI C.M. RAMESH:

Will the Minister of **MINES** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to re-extract gold from Kolar Gold Mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for abandoning the mines earlier;
- (d) whether there is any proof from Geological Survey of India or from any other agency that gold-bearing veins are still present; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) BGML had been incurring losses due to depletion of resources, poor rate of recovery of gold from the ore with increasing depth and excess manpower which rendered the whole operation unviable. The increasing operating costs and huge losses led the Government to close down the operations.
- (d) & (e) Yes, gold bearing veins are still present. The findings of exploration inputs by Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited are as follows:

Drilling for oriental lode between South shaft and Golconda shaft gap yielded possible resources of 0.10m.t. with an average grade of 7.5g/t over an average width of 1.50m over a strike length of 305.00m has been established.

Hancocks shaft section indicated the continuity of H/W Red lode with an average grade of 3.0g/t over a strike length of 120.00m with a possible resources of 10000 tonnes.

In Nundydroog Mine area, Oriental lode persists in New Trial Shaft section with varying grades has been recommended for further drilling. Underground drilling in Mysore Mine area in Mc Taggarts Vertical shaft section, H/W lode was not encouraging but F/W continuity has been recommended for further exploration.

The exploration which was initiated by KGMU, was vigorously pursued by Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) to discover new areas for gold ore mining. From the inventory of ore maintained by BGML together with mining/production data, it is assessed that a total of 5.35 million tons and 3.09 million tons of gold ore reserves/resources are available in Nundydroog and Mysore Champion Amalgamated Mines respectively.

Summary of reserves/resources in KGF

Name of the Mine	Tonnes	Grade Au (g/t)	Metal (Kg)
KGf, Karnataka - Nundydroog Mine	5356420	3.99	21372
- MCA Mine	3092516	5.79	17906
Total:	8448936		39278
