UCIL begins its Diamond Jubilee (60th) year at Jaduguda

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News

On **4 October 2026** the **Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL)** began its **Diamond Jubilee** year at **Jaduguda**, East Singhbhum district, **Jharkhand**, marking six decades of uranium mining. UCIL was incorporated on **4 October 1967**. The chief guest was **Seema Jain**, Member (Finance), **Atomic Energy Commission**. UCIL's CMD is **Dr Kacham Anand Rao**.

Key facts

UCIL	Public sector company under the **Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)**; HQ **Jaduguda**
First mine	**Jaduguda** – India's first uranium mine (production from 1967; uranium found there in 1951)
Other mines	Bhatin, **Narwapahar**, **Turamdih**, Bagjata, Mohuldih, **Banduhurang** (first opencast uranium mine) – all in the **Singhbhum Thrust Belt**, Jharkhand
Andhra Pradesh	**Tummalapalle** (YSR Kadapa) – one of the world's largest uranium deposits
New plan	A proposed **dark matter laboratory** of the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, about **815 m underground** in the Jaduguda mine

Background

- **DAE** was set up in **1954** and works directly under the **Prime Minister**; the **Atomic Energy Commission** dates from **1948**.
- **Atomic Minerals Directorate for Exploration and Research (AMD)**, Hyderabad, finds uranium deposits; other deposits include **Domiasiat (Meghalaya)** and **Rohil (Rajasthan)**.
- **Homi J. Bhabha** framed India's **three-stage nuclear programme**: natural uranium (PHWR), then plutonium (fast breeders), then **thorium**.
- India has large **thorium** reserves in the **monazite sands** of Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Odisha.

Tamil Nadu link: Kalpakkam (Chengalpattu district) has the **Madras Atomic Power Station** (India's first fully indigenous PHWR plant, 1984), the **Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (1971)** and the 500 MWe **Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor**, the second stage of the programme. **Kudankulam** (Tirunelveli) is India's largest nuclear power plant, built with **Russia**. **IREL** mines monazite at **Manavalakurichi** (Kanyakumari).

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