

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4739  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2000  
TENDER FLOATED BY MAHARASHTRA ELECTRICITY BOARD  
RAMSHETH THAKUR

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

- (a) whether the Maharashtra State Electricity Board has requested the Union Government to reserve the certain blocks for extracting the coal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the MSEB has also floated the global tender for selection of Joint Development Partner to undertake captive mining of coal; and
- (d) if so, the response of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) to d): Yes, Sir. In their letter dated 7.3.2000, Maharashtra State Electricity Board had requested Ministry of Coal, Government of India, for reserving the following blocks for extraction of coal by a joint venture company proposed to be formed by them:-

1. Manora (Deep)
2. Hardole
3. Hand-Nad-Alesur
4. Markardhokda
5. Ghonsa-Borda
6. Bhandak
7. Agarzari
8. Warora.

In the same letter, MSEB informed that they had forwarded a proposal to Govt. of Maharashtra for formation of a joint venture company for meeting their future requirements. Government of Maharashtra reportedly cleared MSEB's proposal for formation of joint venture company for extracting the coal from virgin blocks in Vidharbha area of Maharashtra. Tender of selecting a joint venture partner had been published and finalisation of joint venture partner is being processed.

In response to Bid Document published by MSEB for selection of Joint Development Partner to undertake captive mining of coal through the formation of joint venture company, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Western Coalfields Limited, requested MSEB in April, 2000 to delete the names of blocks mentioned in Bid Document as these blocks were in the detailed production programme of WCL drawn for IX, X and beyond Xth Plan. CMD/WCL through his letter dated 28/29.8.2000 addressed to Chairman, MSEB, further suggested that MSEB might like to identify the block and if desired, WCL and MSEB could form a Joint Venture Company subject to Government guidelines and approval with coal pricing on cost plus basis.