

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL AND MINES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2284  
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2004  
EXPANSION OF COAL MINES  
Majhi Shri Parsuram

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

- (a) whether the Government has proposal for the expansion of the coal mines under the Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL);
- (b) if so, the additional coal bearing areas identified by the Government ;
- (c) whether any progress has been made in the forest clearance for those additional areas; and
- (d) if not, the current position in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL AND MINES (Dr. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) Yes, Sir. Mahanadi Coalfields Limited have sanctioned four expansion opencast (OC) coal projects for implementation during X Plan, namely Hingula-II, Lingaraj, Bharatpur Phase-II and Lakhanpur. Project Reports for two more expansion projects namely Belpahar OC and Samleshwari OC are under preparation.

(b) The area acquired earlier for the original projects will suffice the requirement for expansion projects.

(c) & (d) The forest land required and status of forestry clearance of these expansion projects are as below:-

Name of project	Forest Incremental Capacity (MTY)	land required (Ha)	Status of forestry clearance	Application
1. Hingula-II Expn.OC	2.00		Nil	Not applicable
2. Lingaraj Expn.OC	5.00		5.27	Under process of submission by MCL.
3. Bharatpur Expn.OCP- Phase -II	6.00		38.10	Under process of submission by MCL.
4. Lakhanpur Expn.OC	5.00		Nil	Not applicable
5. Belpahar Expn. OC	1.50		40.00	Under process of submission by MCL.
6. Samleshwari, Expn. OC	1.00		149.42	Submitted to onservator of Forests, Sambalpur in March, 2004.