

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1396

ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007

AUCTION OF COAL BLOCKS

Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to auction coal blocks to various sectors;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether the power sector and the PSUs lose their priority status in coal fields due to auctioning;
- (d) if so, the details of steps taken to protect the priority status of the power sector and the PSUs;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to give price preference in auctioning of coal blocks to company willing to set up land use facilities in the States when the said blocks are allocated; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (f): A proposal to introduce competitive bidding system for allocation of coal and lignite blocks, through an amendment in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 is under consideration of the Government.