

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2189
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006
ALLOCATION OF MINING BLOCKS TO PRIVATE ENTREPRENEURS
Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) has allocated surplus mining blocks to private entrepreneurs;
- (b) if not, the reason therefor;
- (c) whether in order to sustain the projected coal production in the next few years, there is a need to hand over surplus mining blocks to private entrepreneurs; and
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Government after holding consultations with Coal India Limited (CIL) and Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL) has identified 81 coal blocks with total geological reserves of about 20.02 billion tonnes for allocation to Government/private sector companies for specified end uses. Out of these 81 blocks, 48 blocks with reserves of about 9.22 billion tonnes were earlier earmarked for CIL.

(c) & (d): In order to bridge the projected gap between demand and supply of coal in the coming years, there is a felt need to allocate coal blocks to private sector companies for specified end uses.