

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2103  
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2008  
PURCHASE OF COAL MINES ABROAD  
Khairi Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently signed any contract for purchase of coal mines outside the country so as to ensure uninterrupted supply of coking coal used in the furnaces of the plants of Steel Authority of India Limited functioning in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details of the terms and conditions including the names of the countries with which contracts have been signed; and
- (c) the quantum of coal to be extracted from these foreign mines alongwith the likely cost thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (DR. AKHILESH DAS)

(a)to(c): No, Sir. At present, the Government has not signed any contract for purchase of coal mines outside the country. However, Government has accorded approval for the formation of a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) constituted by the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Coal India Limited (CIL), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for securing metallurgical coal and thermal coal assets from overseas for these companies.