

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1902
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008
REVIEW OF PRIVATE SECTOR COAL MINES
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that coal mines are owned by public sector, private sector and joint sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof. State-wise;
- (c) whether (government are considering to review of private sector ownership of coal mines;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Coal mines are owned by either a public sector company or private sector company or joint venture company. Besides the mines owned by the Coal India Limited (CIL), a public sector undertaking (PSU) and the Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL), a joint venture company of the Government of India and the Government of Andhra Pradesh, there are 181 coal blocks allocated to other public as well as private sector companies as on 31.12.2007. The table below indicates the number of mines/coal blocks owned by Public Sector and Private Sector Companies:

Number of mines/blocks

State	CIL	SCCL	PSUs other than CIL and SCCL	Private Companies
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West Bengal	98	14	3	
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Jharkhand	159	26	23	
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Uttar Pradesh	4	-	-	
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Madhya Pradesh	73	11	9	
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Maharashtra	52	9	14	
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Chhattisgarh	54	14	20	
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Orissa	23	17	15	
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Assam 5 - -

Andhra Pradesh 55 4 -

Arunachal Pradesh 1 -

Total 468 55 96 85

The blocks allocated jointly to public sector companies and private sector companies have been indicated in public sector as public sector companies account for major share of reserves.

(c)to(d): Blocks are being allocated to private sector companies as per the provisions of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 for specified end uses. A Bill, namely, the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill 2000, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973. The amendment Bill seeks to allow an Indian company to undertake coal mining without the present restriction of captive end use.