

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:920
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2010
EXPLORATION OF COAL
Balram Shri P.;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is exploring the coal belt in the country including Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and location- wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to explore/exploit coal on Public-Private Partnership basis; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the norms of royalty sharing?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION(SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Exploration for coal is a continuous process and Geological Survey of India (GSI) under Ministry of Mines is vested with the responsibility for conducting regional exploration of various minerals including coal. Besides, Ministry of Coal through a Plan Scheme of Promotional/regional exploration conducts exploration for coal in the Country including Andhra Pradesh to supplement the efforts of GSI. Further, coal companies conduct detailed exploration in their command areas for proving coal reserves for preparing projects and to take up coal production. On the basis of exploration carried out by different agencies GSI prepares resource data on 1st April every year. As per the data published by GSI as of 1.4.2009 the estimated coal resources stand at 267.21 billion tonnes and state wise position of estimated coal resources is furnished in the table below:-

(Resource in million tonnes)

S1	State	Proved	Indicated	Inferred#	Total
No					(Total)
1	West Bengal	11652.844	11603.255	5070.709	28326.79
2	Bihar	0.00	0.00	160.00	160.00
3	Jharkhand	39479.333	30894.311	6338.326	76711.96
4	Madhya Pradesh	8041.18	10294.588	2645.251	20981.01
5	Chhatishgarh	10910.644	29191.799	4380.670	44483.10
6	Uttar Pradesh	866.05	195.75	0.00	1061.80
7	Maharashtra	5255.36	2907.21	1992.174	10154.7

8	Orissa	19943.633	31484.055	13799.186	65226.86
9	Andhra Pradesh	9193.61	6748.04	2985.272	18926.9
10	Assam	348.65	35.85	3.02	387.52
11	Sikkim	0.00	58.25	42.98	101.23
12	Arunachal Pradesh	31.23	40.11	18.89	90.23
13	Meghalaya	89.04	16.51	470.93	576.48
14	Nagaland	8.76	0.00	13.18	21.94
	Total	105820.3232	123469.77	37920.5658	267210.58

(c) & (d): The Coal Exploration is being conducted by GSI, Mineral Exploration Corporation (MECL), Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL), Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and some of the Geology/Mining Departments of State Governments like Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa Etc. Coal block holders have also been permitted to take up exploration on their own as per the guidelines of Ministry of Coal. CMPDIL is out sourcing a part of the detailed exploration. However, in the present legislative setup private sector is not permitted to take up coal exploration unless they are allotted a block for captive purposes. The question of royalty payment at exploration stage does not arise as no royalty is required to be paid at the time of exploration.