

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2761

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010

APPROVAL OF GMDC MINING

Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben;Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai;Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan

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

(a) whether the Gujarat Government has recommended a proposal for prior approval of the Central Government for Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC) mining lease application for the lignite in the districts of Kuchh and Bharuch;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has considered the request of the Gujarat Government;and

(c) if so, the time by which the request of the Gujarat Government is likely to be given prior approval for the purpose?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) A proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat for grant of Mining Lease application for the lignite in the districts of Kuchh and Bharuch

(c) Allocation of a lignite block under Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 is a prerequisite before the prior approval of the Central Government is accorded for grant of mining lease under the relevant provisions of the Mines and Minerals(Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. Lignite bearing areas in Kuchh and Bharuch districts have not been allocated by the Ministry of Coal to the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.(GMDCL). Hence question of granting prior approval of mining lease for this area does not arise.