

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4623
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010
COAL MINING PROJECTS
Patle Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Chhattisgarh has submitted several proposals relating to mining of coal in the forest areas in the State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the pending proposals with the Ministry?
- (c) whether the Ministry of Coal will take up with the Ministry of Environment and Forests for early clearance of these projects; and
- (d) the final outcome thereof and the time by when these coal mining projects are likely to be operationalised in the State?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The State Government of Chhattisgarh has taken up the issue of development of 36 coal blocks allotted to various companies in public and private sector [apart from Coal India Limited (CIL)] in the State. Out of these 36 coal blocks, 20 are explored and 16 are unexplored/regionally explored. Production has commenced in 7 coal blocks and exploration is underway in 2 coal blocks. Currently prior approval for coal mining lease in respect of 4 blocks is under consideration of the Ministry of Coal.
- (c) & (d): Ministry of Coal is regularly taking up the issue of early clearance of the projects awaiting forestry/environment clearance with the Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF) at the highest level and these coal mining projects are likely to be operationalised on receipt of forestry and environment clearance.