

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4184
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO COAL BLOCKS
Patle Kamla Devi

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has allotted more than thirty blocks in coal bearing areas of the Chhattisgarh to private and public sector companies;
- (b) if so; whether the approval has been accorded by the Government for carrying out mining operations in these coal blocks;
- (c) if not, whether the Government has any proposal to grant approval for implementation of these important projects in the interest of the above State; and
- (d) if so; the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN)

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has received 11 proposals of coalmining projects of the State of Chhattisgarh for the environmental clearance under the provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006. Out of these 11 proposals, 7 proposals are incomplete in the Environmental Impact Assessment-Environmental Management Plan (EIA-EMP) Reports furnished by the respective project proponents. The remaining four projects have not been considered for the environmental clearance, in view of the Ministry's Circular dated 31.03.2011 regarding consideration of projects for grant of environmental clearance under EIA Notification 2006, which involve forestland.

(c) & (d) The EIA Notification 2006 provides for a time limit of 105 days for taking a decision after receipt of complete information from the project proponents.