

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2613
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2011
ALLOCATION OF COAL BLOCKS
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has urged the Union Government to accord priority to the States situated far from sea coast in providing coal linkages/allocating coal blocks;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon;
- (c) whether any proposal has been received by the Union Government from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for allocating/linkage of coal blocks;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the current status thereof;
- (f) the time by which the proposal is likely to be finalized?

Answer

MINISTER OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): During the period 2003 to 2010, the Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) for Power has authorized linkages/Letters of Assurance for setting up 21 power projects in the State of Uttar Pradesh, involving capacity addition of 12,110 MW. In addition, Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Nigam Limited along with two Public Sector Undertakings of other States has been jointly allocated two coal blocks with the estimated geological reserves of 794 Million Tonnes for power generation on 25.7.2007.

(c) and (d): Other than the projects approved by the Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) for Power, ten applications have been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh and its joint venture partners/Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), till 31st July, 2011, seeking long term coal allocation/Letter of Assurance for setting up power projects in Uttar Pradesh. Government of Uttar Pradesh had also requested in December 2009 for allocation of six coal blocks for meeting the coal requirements of the thermal power projects of the State.

(e) and (f): Subject to the recommendations of the Ministry of Power and other relevant factors, the pending applications of power sector applicants would be placed before the Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) for Power in its meeting, as and when held, to consider the cases for grant of Letter of Assurance for 12th Plan power projects.

As regards allocation of coal blocks, there are at present no coal blocks on offer and the process of identifying new coal blocks for allocation for public/private companies for captive use is underway. As and when the exercise of identification of a fresh lot of captive blocks is finalized, the Ministry of Coal will suitably advertise it in the national dailies and on the Ministry's website, inviting applications from the eligible companies for allocation of blocks.