

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3416
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011
SMALL COAL BLOCKS
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved a new policy for identifying and distributing small coal blocks to private companies and the Government corporations;
- (b) if so, the details of the policy in this regard;
- (c) the manner in which these coal blocks are geologically and geographically different
- (d) the reasons for shift in the policy as Government earlier decided to allocate them to cooperatives run by local villages?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

- (a): No, Sir.
- (b): Does not arise in view of reply given at (a) above.
- (c): These coal blocks are different as the reserves of coal in the area are in isolated small pockets or are not sufficient for scientific and economic development in a co-ordinated and integrated manner and the coal produced from therein will not be required to be transported by rail.
- (d): Does not arise in view of reply given at (a) above.