

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3320

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012

IRREGULARITIES IN ALLOCATION OF COAL BLOCKS

Baitha Shri Kameshwar ;Hazari Shri Maheshwar ;Karunakaran Shri P.;Kaswan Shri Ram Singh;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Mishra Shri Govind Prasad;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Saroj Smt. Sushila;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir;Sugumar Shri K. ;Upadhyay Seema;Verma Smt. Usha

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether irregularities have been reported in allocation of coal blocks to commercial entities during 2004-09 causing Rs. 10.7 lakhs crore of loss to Government and windfall gains to a number of private companies.
- (b) if so, the details thereof; (
- (c) the details of companies which have been allocated coal blocks during the said period;
- (d) whether tenders were invited and auction was done for allocation of coal blocks;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore;
- (f) whether the Government has conducted inquiry into the loss of public money and has fixed responsibility in this regard; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof along with the action being taken to recoup the losses to the national exchequer and if not, the reasons therefor?

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): Out of 218 coal blocks, a total 174 coal blocks are allocated to 267 companies during the period 2004-2009. Out of 174 coal blocks, 21 coal blocks are de-allocated. Hence 153 coal blocks stand allocated to 245 companies out of the above.

(d) & (e): No, Sir. The Amendment of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 enabling the introduction of allocation of coal blocks through auction by competitive bidding took time for its enactment and notification of Rules made thereunder.

(f): No, Sir.

(g): Does not arise in view of answer given to part (f) of question.