

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6653  
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2012  
ALLOCATION OF COAL BLOCKS  
Bhoi Shri Sanjay; Biswal Shri Hemanand

**Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the coal blocks of Odisha are being allocated to other States and thereby jeopardizing the interests of Odisha;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; (
- (c) whether the Government has taken into consideration the views of the Government of Odisha before allocation of coal blocks;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the number of coal blocks identified for allocation to the Odisha Mining Corporation Limited, a State PSU of Odisha?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): To ensure equitable distribution of the coal resources, the coal blocks located in the State of Odisha were also allocated to other States. A total of 36 coal blocks located in Odisha have been allocated to various Government and Private companies including Public Sector Undertakings of Government of Odisha.

(c) & (d): The allocation of coal blocks for captive purpose to public/ private companies was done through the mechanism of an inter-Ministerial inter-Governmental body called the Screening Committee. The Screening Committee is chaired by the Secretary (Coal) and has representation from Ministry of Steel, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Ministry of Railways, Coal India Limited, CIL Subsidiaries, CMPDIL, NLC and the concerned State Governments. Allocations are decided by the Govt. on the recommendations of the Screening Committee taking into account, inter-alia, techno-economic viability of end-use project, state of project preparedness, compatibility in terms of quality and quantity of coal in a block with the requirement of end user and track record of applicant company, recommendations of the State Government and Administrative Ministry concerned etc. Allocation is decided by the Govt. under Section 3(3)(a)(iii) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973.

(e): Coal blocks are not identified for allocation to any particular Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) or State.