

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:89

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2012

CLEARANCE TO COAL BLOCKS

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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of public and private coal blocks are pending for environment and forest clearance at centre and State-levels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, public and private company-wise and State-wise along with the level at which these are pending;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any initiative to grant environment and forest clearance to coal blocks allotted to private and public sector companies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the number of public and private coal blocks given environment and forest clearance during the last three years and the current year, company-wise, State-wise and year-wise;
- (e) the time by which remaining coal blocks are likely to be cleared; and
- (f) whether his Ministry has any proposal for introduction of online clearance and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): As on March,2012, Out of 195 allocated coal blocks, 148 coal blocks are pending for Forest Clearance and 115 coal block are pending for EMP clearance.

Out of 108 allocated coal blocks in private sector, 75 coal blocks are pending for forest clearance and 57 coal blocks are pending for EMP clearance.

Out of 87 allocated coal block in Public sector 73 coal blocks are pending for forest clearance and 58 coal blocks are pending for EMP clearance.

Detailed status of Statewise pending Environment and forest clearance are as follows:-

Sl NO.	State Name	No of coal blocks are awaiting for Environment clearance.	NO of coal blocks are awaiting for Forest clearance at State & Central level (excluding RE blocks)	Note
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1	Andra Pradesh	01	1	Pending Forest clearance statewise are given only for Explored blocks and proposal are pending at State & Central level.
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2	Chhatisgarh	31	20	
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3	Jharkhand	27	23	
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4	Maharastra	08	14	
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5	Madhya Pradesh	14	05	
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6	Orissa	25	16	
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6	West bengal	09	07	
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Total:- 115 86

(c): Ministry of Coal regularly monitors the progress and takes up issues of common nature for expediting Environment Clearance (EC) and Forest Clearance (FC) with Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF). Further Government has constituted a Group of

Ministers to look into the issues concerning coal mining projects and environment with a view to expedite clearance.

(d): The detailed status of environment and forest clearance obtained during the last 3 years and current years (upto May.2012) as per report available to this office in state-wise and year-wise are given as follows:-

Status of grant of Forests & Environment clearance during last 3 years and current years is given in Annexure.

(e): This is a continuous process and request has been made to MoEF to adhere to specified time frame for extending clearances of EC & FC.

(f): As recommended by a Group of Ministers constituted to address the environmental and developmental issues relating to coal mining and other developmental projects, MoEF has been requested to introduce a system for on line processing of application for EC and FC for reducing delays.