

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:170

ANSWERED ON:08.08.2012

COAL BLOCKS UNDER GOVERNMENT DISPENSATION ROUTE

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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several States including Gujarat have sent proposals to the Union Government for allocation of coal blocks under Government dispensation route;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether requests have been received for grant of mining lease to the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation (GMDC) for lignite/other minerals in some areas of the State;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the area involved in such proposals received during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (e) the action taken/being taken by the Government on each of such proposals; and
- (f) the time by which the allocation of coal blocks/grant of mining lease to them is likely to be made?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Government have not invited applications for allocation of coal blocks under the Government dispensation route. However, requests from the State Governments including Gujarat, have been received. As no coal blocks were offered for allocation, the requests of State Governments could not be considered.

(c) & (d): The Government of Gujarat has requested for allocation of lignite blocks as well as approval of Mining Leases in respect of following blocks/areas:-

Sr.No. Name of Lignite Block/Area

- 1 Valia
- 2 Lakhpat-Dhedhadi
- 3 Damlai Padvaniya
- 4 Julrai- Waghabadar
- 5 Kaiyari
- 6 Ghala
- 7 Hamla & Ratadia
- 8 Some areas in Kutch & Bharuch Districts in Gujarat
- 9 South of Rajpardi block

Coal and lignite blocks are allocated under Section 3 of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 whereas the prior approval of the Central Government for grant of mining lease of the allocated coal/lignite blocks are given under the relevant provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. Allocation of a lignite block under Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 is a prerequisite before the prior approval of the Central Government is accorded for grant of mining lease under the relevant provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. The above mentioned blocks have not been allocated by the Ministry of Coal to the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (GMDCL). Hence prior approval of mining lease for these areas does not arise.

(e) & (f): Allocation of coal blocks is an on-going process and as and when the coal blocks are identified and earmarked for allocation, the same are considered for allocation. No proposals have been invited from the State Governments for allocation under Government dispensation route. As far as grant of mining leases are concerned, such applications are considered only after allocation of blocks.