

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4016
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2012
COAL EXPLORATION
Jagannath Dr. M.;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to enter into agreements with Afghanistan and other countries for exploration of coal and other coal related projects; and

(b) If so, the details and the current status thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India had sent a proposal to this Ministry to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Ministry of Mines, Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, to promote and expand bilateral relations in the field of development of coal resources, coal mineral exploration and exploitation including large scale mining etc. After incorporating requisite changes in the MoU, the proposal has been returned to MEA, for further action in the matter. As far as other countries are concerned, presently, there is no such proposal with the Government of India, apart from the existing ones.