

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:945  
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009  
OPERATIONALISATION OF ABANDONED COAL MINES  
Singh Shri Uday Pratap

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

- (a) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) has sought for a special dispensation under the New Distribution Policy for allowing the sale of coal from abandoned mines;
- (b) if so, the details of abandoned coal mines identified for operationalisation;
- (c) whether the CIL proposes to have joint ventures with overseas companies to operationalise the abandoned coal mines; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a)&(b): Coal India Limited (CIL) has proposed to re-open, salvage and operate 18 identified abandoned underground mines. The details of the identified mines are given below:

S.No.	Name of the company	Number of mines identified
-------	---------------------	----------------------------

1	Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	6
---	----------------------------------	---

2.	Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)	8
----	-----------------------------------	---

3.	Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)	4
----	----------------------------------	---

Total		18
-------	--	----

In order to make the proposal encouraging for the prospective bidders, Coal India Limited (CIL) has sought certain permission/clarifications from Ministry of Coal, Government of India concerning sale of coal to such joint venture partners.

(c)&(d): CIL proposes to have joint venture with overseas or domestic companies or a consortium of companies to reopen, salvage and operate identified abandoned mines. For selection of joint venture partner(s) having technical expertise and financial capabilities, global Expression of Interest was invited. Twelve responses were received out of which Ten have been short listed who are eligible to bid for the tender. A detailed model Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) has been developed and finalized after pre-NIT meeting held with the short-listed parties.