

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1796
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012
EXPLORATION OF COAL BELTS
Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is exploring new coal belts in various States including Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the proposals for the Twelfth Five Year Plan period;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed to involve private people and industries under Public Private Partnership (PPP) in such explorations; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a) : Yes, Sir. The Government is exploring new coal belts in various States of the country including Andhra Pradesh through various Govt. agencies i.e Geological Survey of India (GSI), Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDI), Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd.(MECL) and some State Governments. As per the latest National Inventory on Indian Coal Resources published by Geological Survey of India, as on 01.04.2012, the total coal resources assessed in the country are about 2,93,497 Million Tonnes as per the details given below :-

(in Million Tonnes)

State Geological Resources of Coal
Proved Indicated Inferred Total

(A) Gondwana coalfields :

Andhra Pradesh 9566.61 9553.91 3034.34 22154.86

Assam 0 2.79 0 2.79

Bihar 0 0 160.00 160.00

Chhattisgarh 13987.85 33448.25 3410.05 50846.15

Jharkhand 40163.22 33609.29 6583.69 80356.20

State Geological Resources of Coal
Proved Indicated Inferred Total

(A) Gondwana coalfields (contd.) :

Madhya Pradesh	9308.70	12290.65	2776.91	24376.26
Maharashtra	5667.48	3104.40	2110.21	10882.09
Orissa	25547.66	36465.97	9433.78	71447.41
Sikkim	0	58.25	42.98	101.23
Uttar Pradesh	884.04	177.76	0	1061.80
West Bengal	12425.44	13358.24	4832.04	30615.72

(B) Tertiary coalfields :

Arunachal Pradesh	31.23	40.11	18.89	90.23
Assam	464.78	42.72	3.02	510.52
Meghalaya	89.04	16.51	470.93	576.48
Nagaland	8.76	0	8.60	315.41
Total (A+B)	118144.82	142168.85	33183.49	293497.15

However, exploration is a continuous process and new resources get added year on year.

(b): As per the report of the Working Group on Coal and Lignite for formulation of Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17), a programme for 5.85 lakh meters of drilling under promotional/regional exploration has been drawn up and a target of about 22.0 Billion Tonnes of new coal resources has been set for the XII Five Year Plan. A programme for 54.46 lakh meters of drilling under detailed exploration has been drawn up and it is expected that 76.80 Billion Tonnes of coal reserves will be 'proved' through detailed exploration by CMPDI and its agencies.

(c): No, Sir. However, CMPDI is outsourcing some of the exploration activities.

(d): Does not arise in view of reply at (c) above.