

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2946  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2012  
COAL BLOCKS IN 'NO GO' AREAS  
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarama Swamy

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

- (a) whether the Government has given clearance to some of the coal blocks in 'no go' areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the names of such coal blocks and their locations;
- (c) whether the Government has so far allocated these coal blocks;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the names of the companies to whom these coal blocks have been allocated;
- (e) whether the Ministry has approached the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) for clearance of other coal blocks in 'no go' areas; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the MoEF thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f): As informed by the Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF), it has asked the State Governments of Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha and Maharashtra to process the proposals seeking prior approval of Central Government under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for diversion of forest land for coal mining projects and send to MoEF for its further necessary action to consider these proposals on case to case basis and on merit, in accordance with the decision of the Group of Ministers which decided that concept of 'Go-No-Go' for coal mining should be done away with and each of the proposal seeking diversion of forest land for coal mining be processed and considered by MoEF on its merits. The State Governments seek prior approval of the Central Government under Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 before executing the Mining Lease.