

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3948  
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2012  
COAL GASIFICATION PROJECT  
Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Gujarat for allocation of south of Rajparddi block to the Gujarat Industries Power Company Limited for its Underground Coal Gasification project with ONGC;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the proposal is likely to be approved/sanctioned by the Union Government?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): The Government has received a request from M/s Gujarat Industries Power Company Limited (GIPCL) for allocation of South of Rajparddi Block in Gujarat for Underground Coal Gasification project with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2010 provides for grant of reconnaissance permit, prospecting licence or mining lease in respect of an area containing coal and lignite through auction by competitive bidding, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed. This, would however, not be applicable in the following cases:-

# where such area is considered for allocation to a Government company or corporation for mining or such other specified end use;  
# where such area is considered for allocation to a company or corporation that has been awarded a power project on the basis of competitive bids for tariff (including Ultra Mega Power Projects).

The Government has notified the "Auction by Competitive Bidding of Coal Mines Rules, 2012" on 2nd February, 2012. Further, the notification on the commencement of the said Amendment Act, 2010 has also been notified by the Ministry of Mines on 13th February, 2012. The coal/lignite blocks can only be allocated under the amended Act and above mentioned Rules.