

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2086  
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009  
COAL DEPOSITS IN RESERVE FOREST  
Panda Shri Prabodh

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

- (a) whether there are large deposits of coal in some of the reserve forest areas of the country;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has envisaged any plan for exploiting these coal deposits;
- (d) If so, the details thereof; and
- (e) If not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. As per the latest inventory of geological resources of coal in India, prepared by Geological Survey of India (GSI), a cumulative total of 267.21 billion tonnes of geological resources of coal have so far been estimated in the country as on 1.4.2009 which includes resources beneath forest cover area also. However, separate estimation of coal resources beneath the reserve forest areas of the country is not available.

(c) to (e): These deposits may also be exploited based on the economic feasibility of mining project and on obtaining necessary forestry clearance for the project.