

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3176
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009
ALLOTMENT OF COAL BLOCKS FOR CAPTIVE MINING
Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allot coal blocks for captive mining through auction;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;and
- (c) the names of coal blocks likely to be auctioned,company-wise?

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): With the progressive allocation of coal blocks, the number of coal blocks available for allocation is declining, while the number of applicants per block is increasing, as the demand for coal keeps rising. While efforts are on hand to continuously add blocks to the captive list, it is also expected that the demand for blocks would remain far ahead of supply. Therefore, there is an urgent need to bring in a process of selection that is not only objective but also demonstrably transparent. Auctioning through competitive bidding is one acceptable selection process. Accordingly, a Bill viz. the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Amendment Bill, 2008 to amend the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 seeking to introduce competitive bidding system for allocation of coal blocks for captive use was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 17.10.2008.

(c): The Coal blocks to be auctioned have not been identified.