

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5661
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
ALLOTMENT OF COAL BLOCKS TO KERALA
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Government of Kerala had been allotted coal blocks in Odisha for power generation and later on the same have been de-allocated;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the impediment being faced in the extraction of coal including environmental clearance;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken to revive the allocation made to Kerala?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) Baitarni West coal block in the State of Odisha was allocated to Kerala State Electricity Board jointly with M/s Odisha Hydro Power Generation Corporation Limited in July, 2007. However, on the basis of recommendation of the Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) constituted to review the progress of development coal blocks and end-use projects, the above block has been de-allocated.

(c)&(d) The responsibility of developing coal block as per the prescribed guidelines and milestone chart attached with the allocation letter rests entirely with the allocatee company. In the terms and conditions of the allocation letters, it is categorically mentioned that in the event of willful delay in the development coal blocks and in setting up of the end use project, the Government would take appropriate action to de-allocate the said block.

(e) At present there is no proposal to re-allocate Baitarni West coal block. However, under Rule 4 of the Auction by Competitive Bidding of Coal Mines Rules, 2012, the Government has invited applications from the government companies/undertakings (central and state) on 31.12.2012 for allocation of 17 coal blocks for power and mining purposes. The last date for receipt of application was 08.02.2013. The applications received would be considered in accordance with the aforesaid Rules.