

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:891

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013

UNDERGROUND COAL GASIFICATION

Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben;Patil Shri C. R. ;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has received any proposals/recommendations from the State Government of Gujarat for allocation of coal blocks including South of Rajapardi Block, to the Gujarat Industries Power Company Limited (GIPCL) for Underground Coal Gasification Projects;
- (b) if so, the details and status of the proposals along with the total area likely to be recommended for the projects in the State of Gujarat;
- (c) the time by which the necessary sanction is likely to be given to the GIPCL for commencement of the work; and
- (d) the reasons for the delay in clearance of these projects on the part of the Union Government?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) The South of Rajpardi Lignite Block in Bharuch District, Gujarat has been earmarked for allotment to power projects to be selected on tariff based bidding and not for Underground Coal Gasification (UCG). However, in response to the Notice Inviting Applications (NIA) dated 29/07/2013 issued by Ministry of Coal in respect of Lignite Blocks located in the States of Gujarat and Rajasthan for Govt. companies of Rajasthan and Gujarat, this Ministry has received an application from Gujarat Industries Power Company Ltd. (GIPCL) for allocation of Vastan Block having 23.00 sq. km. of explored areas and 107.00 Million Tonnes of Resources as per the regional exploration data. A copy of the application of GIPCL was sent to the State Govt. of Gujarat as well as Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) seeking their comments in the matter. Comments of MoP&NG have been received and the same has been sent to Government of Gujarat for their comments. A decision will be taken based on the comments of Government of Gujarat.