

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:598
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2015
AUCTION OF COAL BLOCKS
Rao Shri Rayapati Sambasiva

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the major initiatives that have been put in place during the last six months to ensure that coal blocks are auctioned keeping in view the national interest;
- (b) the details of projects in the coal mining sector cleared during the said period; and
- (c) the number of blocks allocated during the above period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR COAL, POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a) For management and reallocation of 204 coal mines/blocks cancelled by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Government has promulgated 'the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Second Ordinance, 2014' on 26.12.2014 to ensure smooth transfer of rights, title and interests in the mines/blocks along with its land and other associated mining infrastructure to the new allottees to be selected through an auction or allotment to government company, as the case may be. The allocation of coal blocks would now be made in pursuance of the provisions of Ordinance and Rules made thereunder in a time bound manner to ensure that there is no disruption in supply of coal. The auction of coal blocks has been decided to be carried out in e-auction mode in order to keep the process transparent. The process of e-auction has commenced with the publication of a Notice Inviting Tenders (NIT) on 25.12.2014. The auction of coal blocks is an ongoing process and so far e-auction of 19 coal mines has been completed.
- (b) Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies have approved 11 new/expansion projects during the last six months.
- (c) No coal block has been allocated during the last six months.