

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2691
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2015
VENTILATION AIR MINE METHANE
Raju Shri Gokaraju Ganga

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ventilation Air Mine Methane (VAM) is vented into the atmosphere along with large volumes of ventilation return air, which constitutes a major source of greenhouse gas emissions and there is no proper technology in place to capture and utilize VAM in India;
- (b) if so, the measures the Government has taken to develop such technology to harness VAM in India;
- (c) whether any proposal is pending with the Government in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW AND RENEWABLEE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)to(d):To maintain methane level within the safety limit in the underground coal mines, large-capacity ventilation systems are installed in the underground coal mines to flow fresh air into the mine workings, which dilutes the methane concentration. The return air of the ventilation system contains very low concentration of methane, generally less than 0.75%. Since potential for Ventilation Air Mine Methane (VAM) has not been established in the underground mines of India, the technology for capture and utilization of VAM has not been tried.