

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6115
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
COAL MINE METHANE
Raju Shri Gokaraju Ganga

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has issued any guidelines for initiating Coal Mine Methane (CMM) and Abandoned Mine Methane (AMM) activities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard and the time by which these are likely to be implemented; and
- (d) the criteria being adopted by the Government to tap/harness the coal based natural resources like CMM and AMM in the country?

Answer

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

Reply (a) to (d): No guide lines have been issued by the Ministry for CMM/AMM activities. Coal Mine Methane (CMM) is harnessing of methane from active or projectised coal mining areas. Development of CMM is under focus both at the Govt. and coal industry level as pre-drainage of methane is beneficial for environment, safety of mines and additional source of clean energy. MoC has made CMPDI as the Nodal Agency for Development of CMM.

To prove the efficacy of the process of harnessing and utilisation of methane from mining areas, CMPDI/BCCL have successfully implemented a Demonstration project under Go/UNDP/GEF funding in Moonidih Mine of BCCL. CMPDI has identified 5 prospective CMM blocks within CIL areas for commercial development of CMM. However, the matter could not proceed further as certain issues regarding operationalization of CMM were raised by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MOP&NG) Ministry of Coal has impressed up on MOP&NG to facilitate CIL for taking up exploitation of CMM on commercial lines.