

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6685
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015
PRODUCTION OF COAL BED METHANE
Singh Shri Abhishek

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the guidelines in place for production of coal bed methane;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any survey for identifying the coal blocks for production of coal bed methane;
- (c) if so, the State-wise details thereof: and
- (d) the number of areas proposed to be identified for the production of coal bed methane in the near future?

Answer

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

(a): A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was entered into between Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG) and Ministry of Coal (MoC) on 9/9/1997 to administer Coal Bed Methane (CBM) development in the country. Since Coal Bed Methane is a natural gas MoPNG is to administer CBM projects under the existing Oil Fields Act and Rules. However CBM is an associate gas of coal hence it is required to be extracted in a manner that the interest of coal and lignite industry are not affected adversely as regard to their present and prospective mining.

The MoU provides a framework for the parties to act in a cooperative manner to facilitate consistent with the statutory duties and the exploitation of CBM is economically viable in the country. Subsequently, MoPNG has developed a model contract for production of CBM and Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) has been conducting the auction of blocks identified for the purpose in consultation with Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL) a subsidiary of Coal India Limited under Ministry of Coal.

(b&c): As a result of surveys, 33 blocks were identified and offered / awarded to various companies for exploration & production of CBM in the country. The details as furnished by MoPNG are as under:

Sl no.	State	Blocks Details
1	West Bengal	4 Blocks
2	Jharkhand	7 Blocks
3	Madhya Pradesh	7 Blocks
4	Chhattisgarh	3 Blocks
5	Rajasthan	5 blocks
6	TalenganaPradesh	1 block
7	Andhra Pradesh	1 block
8	Maharashtra	1 block
9	Odisha	2 blocks
10	Assam	1 block
11	Tamilnadu	1 block

(d): The details of 6 identified blocks are as under:

S.N.	State/Area	Proposed block name
1	Gujarat	GJ(1) -CBM-2013/V
2	Gujarat	GJ(2) -CBM-2013/V
3	Gujarat	GJ(3) -CBM-2013/V
4	Gujarat	GJ(4) -CBM-2013/V
5	Gujarat	GJ(5) -CBM-2013/V
6	Gujarat	GJ(6) -CBM-2013/V