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Title: Need to allot Chhendipada and Chhendipada-II coal blocks in lieu of Tentuloi coal block to Odisha Thermal Power Corporation Limited.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Sir, the Government of Odisha has requested the Ministry of Coal, Government of India many a time for allocation of Chhendipada and Chhendipada II Coal Blocks in lieu of Tentuloi Coal Block to M/s Odisha Thermal Power Corporation Limited as the cost of extracting coal from Chhendipada and Chhendipada-II Coal Blocks is very cheaper than that of Tentuloi Coal Block. However, no response from the Ministry has been received so far.

The State of Odisha has one of the largest deposits of power grade coal in the country. The demand for power in the State is growing rapidly due to the increased coverage of household and higher consumption. Therefore, the Government of Odisha is setting up a major project in the public sector for the benefit of the people of the State. So, allocation of these Coal Blocks to Odisha Thermal Power Corporation Limited will help in making available power at a cheaper rate to the consumers of Odisha.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to allot Chhendipada and Chhendipada II Coal Blocks in lieu of Tentuloi Coal Block to Odisha Thermal Power Corporation Limited keeping in view the interests of the millions of consumers of Odisha.