

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Need to allocate coal block to Odisha Thermal Power Corporation Limited in lieu of Tentuloi Coal block.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): The Government of Odisha has requested the Ministry of Coal, Government of India many a time for cancellation of Tentuloi Coal Block and allocation of Chhendipada and Chhendipada-II Coal Blocks to M/s Odisha Thermal Power Corporation Ltd. as the cost of extracting coal from Tentuloi Coal Block is very high. Thereafter, the State Government has requested to allocate Baitarani East, Kardabahal and Bramhaubil Coal Blocks to OTPCL. Further, Utkal-A, Utkal-B1 and Utkal 82 Coal Blocks were also suggested as alternative options. However, no response from the Ministry has been received so far. I, therefore, urge upon the Union Government to allocate any of the requested/suggested Coal Blocks to OTPCL in lieu of Tentuloi Coal Block to enable it to provide power at a cheaper rate to the consumers of Odisha. Such a decision of the Union Government will also enable the State Government to bridge the gap between demand and supply of power across the State.