

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1637
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2019**

Coal Mine Auction Targets

1637. **SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV
SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO**

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- a. whether State rules are undermining the Centre's coal mine auction goals;
- b. if so, the response of the Union Government thereon;
- c. whether States are insisting on fresh environment and forest clearance that have delayed the monetisation of auctioned blocks;
- d. if so, the details thereof;
- e. whether regulatory hurdles at the State Level are creating trouble for the Centre in meeting its ambitious coal mine auction targets;
- f. if so, the response of the Union Government thereon; and
- g. the steps taken by the Union Government to speed up the approval process?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COAL, FINANCE & CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

(a) to (b) Coal Mine Auctions are done by Government of India under the provision of Coal Mine(Special Provisions) Act' 2015 & rules made under it. The State rules are not involved in auction of coal mines.

(c) to (e) Environment Clearance(EC) and Forest Clearance(FC) are given by Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC). Under Coal Mine(Special Provisions) Act' 2015, the vesting order transfers and vest upon the successful bidder all the right, title and interest of the prior allottee, any statutory license, permit, permission, approval or consent required to undertake coal mining operations in coal mines if already issued to the prior allottee. But in case of change of coordinates or change of area of coordinates,

clearances are given under the provision of Environment (Protection) Act,1986 and Forest (Conservation) Act ,1980.

(f) to (g) Monthly meetings with the officials of Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) are held with coal ministry officials. In order to speed up the grant of various clearances by the State, regular meetings at the level of Nominated Authority and Secretary(Coal) are held regularly:

(i) Meetings by Nominated Authority: To speed up the operationalization of the coal mines, the Nominated Authority held meetings with the successful bidders/allottees and representatives of State Government at regular intervals. So far, 15 meetings have taken place.

(ii) Review meetings by Secretary (Coal) : A Monitoring Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) with Chief Secretaries from respective Host States, Secretary (MoEF & CC), Coal Controller Organisation (CCO) & CMPDIL as members of the Committee. Secretary(Coal) holds meeting with the Chief Secretaries of the host states and other concerned officers and Successful Bidders/Allottees to expedite the development of blocks. So far, 9 meetings of Standing Committee have taken place.