

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO 26.07.2010

ANSWERED ON

APPROVAL FOR GMDC'S MINING LEASE APPLICATION .SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL

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SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT COAL be pleased to state :-

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Gujarat has recommended a proposal for prior approval of the Central Government for GMDC's mining lease application for lignite bearing area of 3319 hectares in Kutchh district of the State: and

(b) if so, by when it would be approved ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

(SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b) A proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat for grant of Mining Lease for lignite bearing area of 3319 hectares in Kutchh district of the State of Gujarat.

However, allocation of a lignite block under Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 is a prerequisite before the prior approval of the Central Government is accorded for grant of mining lease under the relevant provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957. Lignite bearing area of 3319 hectares in Kutchh district has not been allocated by the Ministry of Coal to the Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (GMDCL). Hence prior approval of mining lease for this area does not arise.