

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO – 3445
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.03.2018

AUCTION OF MINERAL BLOCKS

3445. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has indemnified more mineral blocks to be auctioned by mid-March, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government is also contemplating setting up special purpose vehicles that would acquire necessary project clearance, including environmental clearance for the mineral blocks before bidding; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that this would add pace to the auction process?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES AND COAL (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) As per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Amendment Act, 2015 and the Rules framed there under, the State Governments are devolved upon the responsibility to carry out auction of mineral blocks in accordance with the prescribed law. The information in regard to minor minerals is not maintained centrally. However, in regard to major minerals, as per the information provided by the State Governments, 35 mineral blocks have already been auctioned till 21.03.2018 and a total 35 mineral blocks have been notified for auction by the State Governments. The State-wise and mineral-wise details of these blocks are as under:

State	Mineral Blocks notified for auction
Jharkhand	2 Blocks (1 Iron Ore, 1 Graphite)
Karnataka	8 Iron Ore Blocks
Madhya Pradesh	8 Blocks (5 Limestone, 1 Bauxite, 1 Iron Ore, 1 Graphite)
Maharashtra	12 Blocks (4 Bauxite, 3 Limestone, 2 Manganese, 2 Copper, 1 Iron Ore)
Odisha	5 Blocks (3 Limestone, 2 Iron Ore)
Total	35 Blocks (13 Iron Ore, 11 Limestone, 5 Bauxite, 2 Manganese, 2 Graphite, 2 Copper)

(c) No such proposal is under consideration in the Ministry at present.

(d) The question does not arise.
