GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2881
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2021

License for new mines

2881. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new mines for which licenses have been granted by Government during the last one year;

(b) the quantum of coal reserve in the country at present; and

(c) whether Government has any plan for the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in coal mining sector, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) The Central Government does not grant any prospecting license or Prospecting License-cum-Mining Lease for coal. Therefore, no prospecting license or Prospecting License-cum-Mining Lease has been granted during last one year for new coal mines.

(b) The total coal resource of the country as per Coal Inventory of India provided by Geological Survey of India (GSI) as on 01.04.2020 is 344020 million tonnes.

(c) Government has reviewed the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy in the coal mining on 18.09.2019 allowing 100% FDI under automatic route for sale of coal, coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure subject to the provisions of CMSP Act, 2015 [Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015] and MMDR Act, 1957 [Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957] as amended from time to time and other relevant Acts on the subject. Associated processing infrastructure includes coal washery, coal handling and separation (magnetic and non-magnetic).

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