

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1941
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2022**

Licences for new mines

1941. Smt. Geeta alias Chandraprabha:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of new mines for which Government has issued licenses during the last one year;
- (b) the quantum of total coal reserves in the country at present; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan for Foreign Direct Investment(FDI) in coal mining, 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) As per the Inventory for Coal and Lignite as on 01.04.2021, the total assessed geological coal resource is 352.13 Billion 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).
