

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. 55**  
**ANSWERED ON 12.12.2022**

Coal Bed Methane mining

**\*55. Shri BRIJLAL:**

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has formulated or been considering to formulate any policy to promote Coal Bed Methane (CBM) mining from coal mines;
- (b) if so, the salient features and details thereof;
- (c) the funds sanctioned and released by Government during the current year, the details thereof; and
- (d) the quantum of gas targeted to be extracted by Government through CBM mining and the blocks allotted to the companies for extracting the gas, and the number of blocks where the work has commenced?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) in respect of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 55 for reply on 12.12.2022 regarding Coal Bed Methane mining asked by Shri Brijlal.**

(a) & (b): Government of India had formulated Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy in 1997, wherein CBM being Natural Gas is explored and exploited under the provisions of Oil Fields (Regulation and Development) Act 1948 (ORD Act 1948) and Petroleum & Natural Gas Rules 1959 (P&NG Rules 1959) administered by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoP&NG). Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) was made the nodal agency.

Subsequently, MoP&NG had issued partial modification of CBM Policy, 1997 vide notification dated 8<sup>th</sup> May' 2018 which outlined consolidated terms and conditions for grant of exploration and exploitation rights for CBM to Coal India Limited and its Subsidiaries from its coal bearing areas for which they possess mining lease for coal mining as it will also be deemed lease for CBM extraction.

(c): No funds have been sanctioned or released during the current year to promote CBM mining from coal mines. Investment in the CBM block is made by the respective Contractor of the block.

(d): Government of India (GoI) had launched CBM bidding rounds I to IV (2001, 2003, 2005 & 2008), out of which 8 Blocks are under operation and in the Production/Development phase. Total area of these 8 blocks is 2430 sq. km. In 2021, GoI had launched Special CBM Bid Round (SCBM-21) and awarded 4 CBM Blocks covering an area of around 3860 sq. Km.

At present, 12 CBM Blocks are active, 5 of which are in the production phase, 3 in the development phase and 4 blocks (awarded during SCBM-21) are under the exploration phase. The status of awarded CBM Blocks is given as under:

Sl. No.	CBM Blocks	Operator	Status
1	RG(East)-CBM-2001/1	EOGEPL	Production
2	Raniganj South	GEECL	Production
3	SP(East)-2001/1	RIL	Development
4	SP(West)-2001/1	RIL	Production
5	Jharia	ONGC	Test Production
6	NK-CBM-2001/1	ONGC+PEPL	Development
7	Raniganj-North	ONGC	Development
8	BK-CBM-2001/1	ONGC	Production
9	BP(ONHP)-CBM-2021/2	ONGC	Applied for PEL, awarded during SCBM-21
10	SR(ONHP)-CBM-2021/5	ONGC	
11	SR(ONHP)-CBM-2021/6	Vedanta Ltd	
12	SP(ONHP)-CBM-2021/1	Invenire Petrodyne	

In addition, in CIL subsidiaries leasehold, one CBM block under BCCL leasehold area i.e. Jharia CBM Block-I has been awarded to M/s PEPL Ltd as CBM developer. This block is under exploration stage.

The total prognosticated CBM resource of the active CBM Blocks (12) is about 480 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM) of which 5.4 BCM CBM has been produced up to Oct-2022. The projection of CBM production from 12 active CBM Blocks up to FY 2024-25 is given below:

<b>Fig in Million Metric Standard Cubic Meters (MMSCM)</b>		
<b>2022-23</b>	<b>2023-24</b>	<b>2024-25</b>
759	1072	1508

Government of India has now launched Special CBM Bid Round-2022(SCBM-22) with the offering of 16 CBM Blocks covering an area of around 5800 sq.km across 7 States.

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