

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2110
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

Deocha-Pachami coal mine

2110. Dr. Ameer Yajnik:
Shri Pramod Tiwari:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) steps Government is taking to address protests against proposed Deocha-Pachami coal mine in West Bengal's Birbhum by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes communities;
- (b) whether it is a fact that if operational, it can reportedly be Asia's largest coal mine, if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether Tribal farmers who rely on land and forest to survive will only be rehabilitated and not provided with land to grow crops, if so, reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has laid out plans to reduce dependency on coal as part of net zero emission target by 2070, if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Acquisition of land is responsibility of allocattee of coal block. As per information received from Govt. of West Bengal, majority of the people in the coal block area have already given their consent for the "Consent based Resettlement and Rehabilitation Package" for handing over their land for setting up the proposed coal mine to the State Government representatives.
- (b) Coal mine is under exploration stage, capacity of the mine can be assessed after Geological Report is available.
- (c) Rehabilitation and resettlement will be done as per prevailing norms of State govt.
- (d) To reduce dependency of coal, generation from renewable energy is being promoted. Measures being taken are as under:
 - Permitting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) up to 100 percent under the automatic route in Renewable Energy Sector.
 - Waiver of Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) charges for inter-state sale of solar and wind power for projects to be commissioned by 30th June 2025,

- Declaration of trajectory for Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) up to the year 2029-30,
- Setting up of Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Parks to provide land and transmission to RE developers for installation of RE projects at large scale,
- Schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM), Solar Rooftop Phase II, 12000 MW CPSU Scheme Phase II, etc,
- Laying of new transmission lines and creating new sub-station capacity under the Green Energy Corridor Scheme for evacuation of renewable power,
- Notification of standards for deployment of solar photovoltaic system/devices,
- Setting up of Project Development Cell for attracting and facilitating investments.
