

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINES  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1696**  
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025

**OPERATIONALIZATION OF MINES BY PROJECT MONITORING UNIT**

1696. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) given that only 50 out of 404 auctioned non-coal mineral blocks have been operationalised since 2015, the steps that the Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) is taking to expedite mining operations; and
- (b) plan of Government to address the challenges faced by the 92 commercial coal mines awaiting a total of 364 clearances?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES  
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) As on 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2025, out of 542 auctioned mines, 66 mines are operational. The Project Management Unit (PMU) supports the Ministry in expediting mineral block operationalization including handholding of successful bidders in getting clearances from different agencies by liaison with various departments/offices of Central and State governments for streamlining of approvals and maintaining real-time status of clearances for all the mines. PMU has also developed a “Mining Dashboard” to monitor progress in the operationalisation status of auctioned mineral blocks which has the following features:

- i. Enables near real-time tracking of each auctioned mineral block from the point of auction to operationalization, covering all critical milestones and statutory clearances;
- ii. Monitors key approval stages such as Letter of Intent issuance, Mining Plan approval, Scheme of Prospecting submission, environment and forest clearances, land acquisition, execution of lease deed and operationalization of blocks highlighting delays and non-compliance issues, if any;
- iii. Offers interactive dashboards with filters by state, mineral type, and clearance stage, allowing users to assess progress across states and multiple block categories;
- iv. Provides targeted tracking for critical mineral blocks, helping stakeholders evaluate the pace of operationalization and address specific bottlenecks; and
- v. Enhances inter-departmental and Centre-State collaboration by integrating operational and regulatory data across mining, environment, forest, and revenue

departments/Ministries, facilitating informed policy decisions and targeted governance improvements.

(b) As per the information received from the Ministry of Coal, multi-level review meetings are conducted regularly with coal block allottees, state officials, and central authorities to track progress, resolve pending issues, and facilitate statutory clearances. A dedicated PMU has also been set up to assist allottees in obtaining statutory clearances, monitor progress, identify bottlenecks, and ensure timely resolution through inter-agency coordination. Further, the Ministry of Coal has introduced Single Window Clearance System (SWCS) portal on 11.01.2021 enabling the processing of statutory clearances through a unified portal. Under commercial mining scheme, a 50% rebate on the Final Offer is provided for coal produced before the Scheduled Date of Production to encourage early commencement of operations.

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