

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 841
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2025**

COAL BLOCK AUCTIONS AND LOCAL PROTESTS IN ODISHA

841 DR. SASMIT PATRA:

Will the Minister of **COAL** be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of coal blocks auctioned in the State of Odisha since 2019;
- (b) districts where public protests have been recorded against mining operations;
- (c) whether gram sabha consent was taken as per PESA Act 1996; and
- (d) the status of environmental clearance of these blocks?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COAL & MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

- (a) A total of 25 coal blocks have been successfully allocated through auction in the State of Odisha since the year 2019.
- (b) Public protests in respect of three coal blocks, namely Jamkhani (Sundargarh district), Bankhui and Baitarni West (both in Angul district) have been reported to the Ministry of Coal.
- (c) Yes. Gram Sabha consent, as mandated under the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA Act) needs to be obtained by the coal block allocattees for the coal block situated in Scheduled Areas for commencement of mining operation.
- (d) Out of the 25 coal blocks auctioned in Odisha since 2019, Environmental Clearance (EC) has been obtained for 4 coal blocks.
