

**Government of India
Ministry of Coal
Lok Sabha
Unstarred Question No. 1383
To be answered on 27.12.2017**

Allocation of Coal Mines

1383. SHRI J.C. DIVAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to change the methodology for allocation of coal mines for commercial mining, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government plans to put under the hammer 5-6 coal blocks for commercial mining by private players, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether commercial mines are allotted without specifying the end use and allow private entities to sell the fuel to buyers across sectors such as power, cement and the steel and if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard; and
- (d) whether the country is in the process of throwing open commercial coal mining to private firms for the first time in four decades, with the aim of shifting the world's third biggest coal importer towards energy self-sufficiency and if so, the details thereof and progress made in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

(a) to (d): Enabling provisions have been made in the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 for allocation of coal mines by way of auction and allotment for the sale of coal. The methodology for allotment of coal mines under the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 to Central / State Public Sector Undertakings for sale of coal has been approved by the Government. In accordance with these provisions, 8 coal mines have been allotted to Public Sector Undertakings for sale of coal. However, the methodology for auction of coal mines / blocks for sale of coal under the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 is under consideration of the Government.
