

Government of India
Ministry of Coal
Lok Sabha
Unstarred Question No. 2704
To be answered on 03.01.2018
Coal Mines

2704. SHRI BHAGWANT MANN:

PROF. SADHU SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has allowed prospective owners of coal mines to sell 25% of produce in open market from nil previously by relaxing the end use norms for non-coal mines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such move will help in dumping the waste not used for captive purpose;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other changes made by the Government to rekindle the investors interest in mining sector?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): No Sir.

(c) to (d): Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) & (b) above.

(e): 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, 13 coal mines have been allotted to Public Sector Undertakings for sale of coal. Further, 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.

Further, as per information provided by Ministry of Mines, amendments have been carried out in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to ensure investors participation which *inter alia* includes:

- (i) All mineral concessions will be granted only through auction.

- (ii) To ensure the uninterrupted supply of raw material to the industries, section 8A (5) and 8A (6) of MMDR (Amendment) Act, 2015 provides for deemed extension to non-captive mines upto the year 2020 and captive mines upto the year 2030.
- (iii) The previous approval of the Central Government has been dispensed with in respect of Part C minerals as contained in the First Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957.
- (iv) Provision for constituting special courts in states has been introduced through section 30A, 30B and 30C of the MMDR Act.
- (v) In order to attract private investment and Foreign Direct Investment and also in the perspective of ease of doing business, easy transferability & concession granted through auction is ensured.

The MMDR Act was further amended through the MMDR (Amendment) Act, 2016 to allow transfer of a mining lease granted otherwise than through auction. Transfer of captive mining leases, granted otherwise than through auction also is permitted to be transferred subject to the prescribed terms and conditions.
