

Government of India
Ministry of Coal
Lok Sabha
Unstarred Question No. 367
To be answered on 12.12.2018

Allocation of Coal Reserves

367. SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether only approximately 16% of the total allocated coal reserves have been auctioned this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the other channels of allocation of coal reserves in the country;

(c) whether the fourth and fifth round of auctions were cancelled owing to lack of bidders and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of coal mines auctioned over the years, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure precise policies, transparent transactions and transformative outcomes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) and (b): The allocation of coal mines are made under the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 [CM(SP) Act, 2015] and the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 [MM(DR) Act, 1957]. Allocation is made through auction to public and private sector companies and through allotment to public sector companies. No coal mine has been auctioned this year.

(c): In the 4th tranche of auction, 9 coal mines were put for auction for the Non-regulated Sector i.e. Iron & Steel, Cement and Captive Power Plants. Due to low response, online bids were not opened and the 4th tranche of auction was annulled. In the 5th tranche, 6 coal mines were put for auction for the specified end use "production of Iron & Steel". As there were less than 3 bidders/technically qualified bidders, the 5th tranche of auction was also annulled.

(d): So far, 31 coal mines have been auctioned under the CM(SP) Act, 2015. Out of the originally auctioned 31 Coal Mines, Coal Mine Development and

Production Agreements have been terminated in respect of 6 Coal Mines. State-wise details of these 25 auctioned Coal Mines are at Annexure. No coal block has been allocated through auction route under MM(DR) Act, 1957.

(e): To keep the process transparent, the first ever auction of coal mines were conducted in December, 2014 through e-auction mode on an electronic platform. No physical bids were accepted or considered. Applications were required to be submitted online for allotment of coal mines to Government companies also. Further, to ensure the fool proof security of the E-platform of M/s MSTC, Security Audit had also been conducted prior to auction of coal mines. It was one of the most transparent auctions where bids were placed on an electronic platform accessible to everyone with an internet connection. In fact, everyone had the option of tracking the progress of the auction on their mobile phones. The Ministry had to augment the server capacity as lakhs of people were viewing the auctions live. The number and names of the companies which had applied were publicly disclosed in open forums where hundreds of bidders were present along with members of the media too. The entire proceedings were videotaped. There were also press releases and names were disclosed on the auction website. Technical and financial parameters for the qualification of bidders were clearly laid down in the tender document, which is even today available in the public domain on the website. Grounds for disqualification were also clearly mentioned in the tender document. Specific reasons were given to such bidders. The initial bid price (applicable floor price) and subsequent bids were also visible to the public. The parameters for determining the floor price and subsequent bids were part of the methodology and on public display on the website. Thus, each and every data point was actually available in the public domain.

Annexure

S.No.	Name of Coal Mine	State	Successful Bidder	Schedule
1	Chotia	Chhattisgarh	Bharat Aluminum Co. Ltd (BALCO)	II
2	Gare Palma IV-4	Chhattisgarh	HINDALCO (HIL)	II
3	Gare Palma IV-5	Chhattisgarh	HINDALCO (HIL)	II
4	Gare-Palma Sector-IV/8	Chhattisgarh	Ambuja Cements Ltd	III
5	Kauthatia	Jharkhand	HINDALCO (HIL)	II
6	Tokisud North	Jharkhand	Essar power MP Ltd	II
7 - 8	Brinda and Sasai	Jharkhand	Usha Martin Ltd	III
9	Dumri	Jharkhand	HINDALCO (HIL)	III
10	Lohari	Jharkhand	Aranya Mines Pvt Ltd	III
11	Meral	Jharkhand	Trimula Industries Limited	III
12	Moitra	Jharkhand	JSW Steel Ltd	III
13	Ganeshpur	Jharkhand	GMR Chhattisgarh Energy Limited (GMR)	III
14	Jitpur	Jharkhand	Adani Power Limited	III
15	Bicharpur	Madhya Pradesh	Ultra Tech Cement Limited	II
16	Sial Ghoghri	Madhya Pradesh	Reliance Cement Co Pvt Ltd (RCCPL)	II
17	Amelia North	Madhya Pradesh	Jaiprakash Power Ventures Ltd. (JPVL)	II
18	Belgaon	Maharashtra	Sunflag Iron and Steel Company Limited (SIL)	II
19	Marki Mangli III	Maharashtra	B.S. Ispat Limited	II
20	Nerad Malegaon	Maharashtra	Indrajit Power Pvt Ltd	III
21	Marki Mangli-I	Maharashtra	Topworth Urja and Metals Ltd (TUML)	
22	Talabira-I	Odisha	GMR Chhattisgarh Energy Limited (GMR)	II
23	Ardhagram	West Bengal	OCL Iron & Steel Ltd.	II
24	Sarisatolli	West Bengal	CESC Limited (CESC)	II
25	Trans Damodar	West Bengal	The Durgapur Projects Limited	II