

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3291
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2023**

Coal Blocks in Odisha

3291. MS. CHANDRANI MURMU:

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

- (a) the number of coal blocks that is up for auction in Odisha;
- (b) the details of the valuation of these coal blocks and the expectation of the Government therefrom;
- (c) the number of such blocks in Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj districts;
- (d) the details of the norms to be followed by the companies that have been allocated/auctioned coal blocks in order to control pollution; and
- (e) the number of the companies who have violated environmental norms and the action taken against them?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COAL, MINES & PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)**

(a) & (b) 17 coal mines from Odisha were put up for auctions under 7th round of commercial coal mine auctions launched on 29.03.2023 to achieve self-reliance in coal sector and reducing the expenditure of precious foreign reserves associated with coal imports. Total Peak Rated Capacity of these mines is 62 Million Ton Per Annum (MTPA) with cumulative Geological reserves of 14,752.46 Million tonnes.

(c) No mines under 7th round of auctions from Odisha falls in Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj districts.

(d) Coal companies are required to take Environmental Clearance (EC) and Forest Clearance (FC) before start of actual production from coal mines and to take requisite actions as per conditions of EC/FC to control pollution. Clause 11.5 of Coal Block Development and Production Agreement (CBDPA) also mandates that Successful Bidder shall implement mechanised coal extraction, transport and evacuation in the Coal Mine, in line with modern and prevalent technologies. Further, the Successful Bidder shall strive to minimize the carbon footprints from operations at the Coal Mine, undertake steps to reduce environmental pollution and promote sustainability, in accordance with Good Industry Practice.

(e) No such report has been received for violation of environmental norms as no coal block is located in Keonjhar and Mayurbhanj districts in Odisha.
