

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 672
ANSWERED ON 06.12.2023

AUCTION OF MINES

672. DR. BHARATIBEN DHIRUBHAI SHIYAL:
SHRI RAVI KISHAN:
MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:
SHRI PATEL HASMUKHBHAI
SOMABHAI:
SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH
CHANDEL:
SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT:
DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA:
SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to auction minerals blocks including the critical minerals to boost economic investment and development in mineral exploration; and
- (b) if so, the details of the blocks of minerals which are scheduled to be auctioned?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINES, COAL AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The process of auction of Critical Minerals have been initiated by the Central Government for the first time in India. So, far the Government has identified 30 minerals as Critical Minerals.

The Central Government has amended the MMDR Act, 1957 through the MMDR Amendment Act, 2023, whereby 24 critical and strategic minerals have been inserted in Part D to the Schedule-I of the MMDR Act, 1957 which have been identified as critical and strategic minerals for the country. Further, the amended Act has also empowered Central Government to auction blocks of these minerals. Revenue from auction of these blocks will accrue to the concerned State Governments. Government of India has launched first tranche of auction of these minerals on 29th November, 2023 for 20 blocks of critical and strategic minerals. The details of the blocks is attached at Annexure.

Annexure

The details of Critical Mineral Blocks which have been notified for auction are as detailed below:

SI No	Block Name	State	Commodity	ML/CL*
1	Chutia-Nauhatta Glauconite Block	Bihar	Potash	CL
2	Pipradih-Bhurwa Glauconite Block	Bihar	Potash	CL
3	Genjana Ni, Cr & PGE Block	Bihar	Nickel, Platinum Group Elements and Chromium	CL
4	Kundol Nickel and Chromium Block	Gujarat	Nickel & Chromium	CL
5	Muskaniya-Gareriatola-Barwari Potash Block	Jharkhand	Potash	CL
6	Dudhiasol East Nickel and Copper Block	Odisha	Nickel and Copper	ML
7	Babja Graphite and Manganese Block	Odisha	Graphite and Manganese	ML
8	Biarapalli Graphite and Manganese Block	Odisha	Graphite and Manganese	ML
9	Akharkata Graphite Block	Odisha	Graphite	CL
10	Vellakal Central (Segment-A) Molybdenum Block	Tamil Nadu	Molybdenum	CL
11	Nochchipatti Molybednum Block	Tamil Nadu	Molybdenum	CL
12	Velampatti North A & B Molybdenum Block	Tamil Nadu	Molybdenum	CL
13	Kurunjakulam Graphite Block	Tamil Nadu	Graphite	CL
14	Iluppakudi Graphite Block	Tamil Nadu	Graphite	CL
15	Mannadipatti Central Molybdenum Block	Tamil Nadu	Molybdenum	CL
16	Marudipatti (Central) Molybdenum Block	Tamil Nadu	Molybdenum	ML
17	Kurchha Glauconite Block	Uttar Pradesh	Potash	CL
18	Pahadi Kalan - Gora Kalan Phosphorite Block	Uttar Pradesh	Phosphorite	CL
19	Salal-Haimna Lithium, Titanium and Bauxite (Aluminous Laterite) Block	UT: Jammu and Kashmir	Lithium, Titanium and Bauxite (Aluminous Laterite)	CL
20	Katghora Lithium and REE Block	Chhattisgarh	Lithium and Rare Earth Elements	CL

*ML- Mining Lease; CL – Composite License