

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 527
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2020

Coal Regulatory Authority

527. **MS. PRATIMA BHOUMIK:**
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government is planning to form Coal Regulatory on the lines of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) and Central Electricity Authority (CEA) and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (b) the number of non-captive mineral mines presently operational/working in the country, State-wise including Jharkhand and period of lease of non-captive mines;
- (c) whether only 29 coal blocks are in operation out of 204 blocks whose allocation was cancelled by the apex court in 2014; and
- (d) if so, the reason of non-allocation of 175 coal blocks till now and the action taken by the Government for the allocation of these 175 coal blocks?

ANSWER

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

(a): The issue of Coal Regulatory Authority is being examined keeping in view the legislative developments that took place after the cancellation of the coal blocks, allocated through the Screening Committee route since 1993 by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in 2014. The Government is yet to take a view in this regard.

(b): The number of non-captive coal mines, presently operational/working in the country, State-wise including Jharkhand is as under:-

| States | No. of Coal Mines |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Assam | 4 |
| Chhattisgarh | 46 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 2 |
| Jharkhand | 119 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 55 |
| Maharashtra | 56 |
| Odisha | 25 |
| Telangana | 48 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 3 |
| West Bengal | 68 |
| Uttar Pradesh & Madhya Pradesh | 2 |

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Total | 428 |
|--------------|------------|

As per section 8 of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, mining lease of coal and lignite may be granted for a period not exceeding thirty years and the minimum period of such mining lease shall not be less than twenty years. Further, a mining lease may be renewed for a period not exceeding twenty years.

(c & d): Allocation of coal blocks under Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 is an ongoing process. So far, 98 coal blocks out of 204 coal blocks, cancelled by apex court in 2014, have been allocated under the provisions of Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015.

Out of these 98 coal blocks, 29 coal mines have got Mine Opening Permission.

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