

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO – 1444
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2024

E-AUCTION OF CRITICAL AND STRATEGIC MINERAL BLOCKS

† 1444 SHRI HARISH CHANDRA MEENA:

Will the Minister of Mines be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of the mineral blocks for which the Government has invited tenders;
- (b) the current status of e-auction process of 20 critical and strategic mineral blocks announced by the Ministry of Mines including the number of blocks successfully auctioned and awaiting allocation;
- (c) the details of units that have received tenders for these mineral blocks including the names of companies and particulars of blocks allotted to each of them;
- (d) the expected timelines for commencement of mining operations in the allocated blocks; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to ensure that social and economic damage is minimised?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (c) So far, the Ministry of Mines has issued NITs for 48 critical mineral blocks in four tranches. Out of these, 24 blocks (4 Mining Lease (ML) and 20 Composite License (CL)) has been successfully auctioned and preferred bidders have been declared. State wise details are given at **Annexure –I**.

(d) In case of block auctioned for Mining Lease, as per Rule 10 of the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015, Mining Lease has to be executed within 3 years from the date of issue of Letter of Intent (LoI) which is extendable by 2 years by the State Government with reasons recorded in writing. Further, production from these blocks has to start within 2 years of the execution of Mining Lease which is extendable by one year.

In case of block auctioned for Composite Licence, after the issuance LoI, the Preferred Bidder has to obtain all consents, approvals, permits, no-objections as may be required under applicable laws for commencement of prospecting operations and submit the scheme of prospecting within 01 year from the date of the LoI for execution

of Composite Licence which is extendable by 6 months. Thereafter, the composite licence holder has to conduct Geological Exploration of the area to ascertain evidence of mineral contents within 3 years extendable by 2 years. After the completion of prospecting operations and submission of Geological Report, the State Government shall issue a letter of intent for mining lease within a period of fifteen days and further mining lease deed is executed in accordance with Rule 10(6) of the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015.

(e) As per existing law, before execution of the mining lease, every mine is required to obtain the requisite statutory clearances such as Environment Clearance and Forest Clearance etc. from various departments of the Central Government and respective State Governments.

Further, Section 24A of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 [MMDR Act, 1957] prescribes that the concession holders are liable to pay compensation to the occupier of the surface of the land, for any loss or damage which is likely to arise or has arisen from or in consequence of the reconnaissance, mining or prospecting operations.

Ministry of Mines has implemented Sustainable Mining by making provisions under Chapter-V of Mineral Conservation and Development Rules (MCDR), 2017. Provisions have been incorporated in the rules for precaution against air pollution, prevention of discharge of toxic liquid, precaution against noise, control of surface subsidence etc.

Rule 35 of MCDR, 2017 provides for star rating of the mining leases based on the sustainable mining practices adopted by the miners. Further, as per Rule 35 (4) of MCDR, 2017, every holder of a mining lease shall achieve at least three-star rating within a period of four years from the date of commencement of mining operations and thereafter maintain the same on year-on-year basis.

Annexure I

No.	State	Name of the Block	ML/ CL	Name of Preferred Bidder
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Balepalyam Tungsten and Associated Mineral Block	CL	Hindustan Zinc Limited
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Depo Vanadium and Graphite Block	CL	Vedanta Limited
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Endolin-Isholin Graphite Block	CL	Mamco Mining Private Limited
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	Lodoso East REE and Associated Minerals Block	CL	--
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	Phop Graphite and Vanadium Block	CL	Oil India Ltd
6.	Arunachal Pradesh	Radhpu Graphite and Vanadium Block	CL	Orissa Metaliks Private Limited
7.	Bihar	Chutia-Nauhatta Glauconite Block	CL	Rungta Sons Private Limited
8.	Bihar	Genjana Nickel, Chromium and PGE Block	CL	Vedanta Limited
9.	Bihar	Pipradih-Bhurwa Glauconite Block	CL	Rungta Sons Private Limited
10.	Chhattisgarh	Bhalukona Glauconite Block	CL	--
11.	Chhattisgarh	Chiknipani Tungsten Block	CL	--
12.	Chhattisgarh	Katghora Lithium and REE Block	CL	Maiki South Mining Private Limited
13.	Chhattisgarh	Kelenda Glauconite Block	CL	--
14.	Chhattisgarh	Raipura Phosphorite and Limestone Block	CL	--
15.	Chhattisgarh	Semhardih Phosphorite and Limestone Block	CL	--
16.	Gujarat	Kundol Nickel and Chromium Block	CL	--
17.	Jharkhand	Muskaniya-Gareriatala-Barwari Potash Block	CL	--
18.	Jharkhand	Ponchi Graphite Block	ML	Satguru Mining Private Limited

19.	Karnataka	Dombarahalli Phosphate and REE Block	CL	--
20.	Karnataka	Gollarahatti-Mallenahalli Nickel, Chromium and PGE Block	CL	Vedanta Limited
21.	Karnataka	Holalkere - Doddaghatta Ni and PGE Block	CL	--
22.	Karnataka	Sanyasikoppa Cobalt, Manganese and Iron Block	CL	Vedanta Limited
23.	Madhya Pradesh	Bahera- Goriara Graphite and Basemetal Block	CL	Vinmir Resources Pvt Ltd
24.	Madhya Pradesh	Golighat Graphite and Vanadium Block	ML	Shanti GD Ispat and Power Pvt Ltd.
25.	Madhya Pradesh	Khattali Chhoti Graphite Block	CL	Coal India Limited
26.	Maharashtra	Kankauli PGE, Nickel, Chromium and Associated Mineral Block	CL	--
27.	Maharashtra	Vadakhol-Asoli Ni, Cr, Co and Associated Mineral Block	CL	Assam Mineral Development Corporation Limited
28.	Odisha	Akharkata Graphite Block	CL	Kundan Gold Mines Private Limited
29.	Odisha	Babja Graphite and Manganese Block	ML	Agrasen Sponge Private Limited
30.	Odisha	Biarpalli Graphite and Manganese Block	ML	Agrasen Sponge Private Limited
31.	Odisha	Dudhiasol East Nickel and Copper Block	ML	--
32.	Rajasthan	Bharusari Potash and Halite Block	CL	--
33.	Rajasthan	Lakhasar Potash and Halite Block	CL	--
34.	Rajasthan	Jhandawali - Satipura Amalgamated Potash and Halite Block	CL	--
35.	Rajasthan	Jorkian-Satipura-Khunja Amalgamated Potash and Halite Block	CL	--
36.	Tamil Nadu	Iluppakudi Graphite Block	CL	Dalmia Bharat Refractories Limited
37.	Tamil Nadu	Kurunjakulam Graphite Block	CL	--

38.	Tamil Nadu	Mannadipatti Central Molybdenum Block	CL	--
39.	Tamil Nadu	Marudipatti (Central) Molybdenum Block	ML	--
40.	Tamil Nadu	Nayakkarpatti Tungsten Block	CL	Hindustan Zinc Limited
41.	Tamil Nadu	Nochchipatti Molybdenum Block	CL	--
42.	Tamil Nadu	Velampatti North A&B Molybdenum Block	CL	--
43.	Tamil Nadu	Vellakkal Central (Segment-A) Molybdenum Block	CL	--
44.	Uttar Pradesh	Barwar Phosphorite Block	CL	Mamco Mining Private Limited
45.	Uttar Pradesh	Kurchha Glauconite Block	CL	Shobha Minerals
46.	Uttar Pradesh	Nawatola-Laband REE Block	CL	--
47.	Uttar Pradesh	Pahadi Kalan-Gora Kalan Phosphorite Block	CL	Sagar Stone Industries
48.	UT: Jammu and Kashmir	Salal-Haimna Lithium, Titanium and Bauxite (Aluminous Laterite) Block	CL	--