

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 4586
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.08.2025

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ON COAL MINE

†4586. **SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:**

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any Research and Development (R&D) projects have been undertaken on coal mine methane extraction or underground coal gasification; and
- (b) if so, the details of key R&D projects currently underway or recently completed in these areas especially in Odisha?

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

(a)&(b): One R&D project titled “A Pilot Project on Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) to establish technology in Indian geo-mining Conditions” has been undertaken by M/s Ergo Exergy Technologies Inc. (EETI), Canada, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL) and Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) in Kasta West block of ECL, Jharkhand. Phase I of the project was completed on 31.05.2025 and Phase II of the project commenced on 20.06.2025 with a duration of 15 months.

One research project on coal mine methane extraction titled “Capacity Building for extraction of CMM Resource within Coal India Limited (CIL) Command Areas” was undertaken by CMPDI and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO), Australia. This research project was completed during 2022-23. Under this project, the CMPDI’s capacity was upgraded for accurate and rapid CMM/CBM potential assessment through installation of advanced equipment, mobile testing unit, and reservoir modelling tools.

However, no research project related to coal mine methane extraction or underground coal gasification has been undertaken in Odisha, till date.
