

**Government of India
Ministry of Coal**

Lok Sabha

**Unstarred Question No. 3149
To be answered on 17.12.2015**

Coal Blocks in Forests

3149. DR. GOKARAJU GANGA RAJU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the coal blocks proposed to be auctioned are in the habitats of tigers, leopards or elephants and the protected forest area; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR COAL, POWER, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. Only those coal mines which are not falling in 'Inviolable Forest Areas' as indicated by Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) are being auctioned.
