

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1351  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.03.2016**

**Aerial Surveys of Blocks**

**1351. SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:  
DR. SUNIL BALIRAM GAIKWAD:  
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:  
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO  
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:  
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:  
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:**

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) is planning to start using drones to conduct aerial surveys of blocks that come up for exploration and to assess the extent of greenery restored after mines are closed;
- b) if so, whether his Ministry has approached to the Ministries of Home Affairs and the Civil Aviation in this regard;
- c) if so, the details thereof and the response of these Ministries thereto; and
- d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to cut down the survey time?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

**(a) to (c):**Coal India Limited (CIL) has taken steps for technological upgradation to augment production and to consolidate Post mining activities. However, as of now it has not prepared any proposal for taking up aerial surveys using drones in mined out areas.

**(d):** To cut down survey time, Central Mines Planning Design Institution (CMPDI) has started using 3D Terrestrial Laser Scanner for overburden (OB) measurement in all the opencast (OC) mines. High resolution satellite data are being used for monitoring all the land reclamation status in the OC mines. Electronic Total Stations are also being used for day-to-day survey work.

