GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- †1715
ANSWERED ON- 10/12/2025

COMMERCIAL COAL MINE AUCTION

†1715.SHRI RADHESHYAM RATHIYA:
SHRI DULU MAHATO:
SHRI RAMASAHAYAM RAGHURAM REDDY:
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR DUBEY:
DR. KALYAN VAIJINATHRAO KALE:
SMT. ROOPKUMARI CHOUDHARY:
SHRI NABA CHARAN MAJHI:
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of ***COAL*** be pleased to state:

(a) the details and objectives of the 14th round of commercial coal mine auction;
(b) the details of number of mines offered under the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation Act),1957, State-wise;
(c) the total number of bids received for each mine along with the details of successful bidders for each mine including the company name, bid value, production capacity and timeline for commencement of operations;
(d) the criteria adopted to identify mines with the potential for advanced technologies;
(e) the policy measures being taken to promote transparency, competitiveness and digital integration in commercial coal mining;
(f) the manner in which the recent auction rounds are likely to impact domestic coal availability, regional efficiency and long-term energy security;
(g) the process adopted to assess the environmental carrying capacity, impact on local communities and potential increase in the State's coal production capacity for the mines located in Chhattisgarh particularly for the Hasdeo Aranya and Mand-Raigarh belts;
(h) the revenue and employment likely to be generated by the said projects in Chhattisgarh; and
(i) whether auction for any new coal mine has been carried out in Sidhi Lok Sabha Constituency and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) The 14th round of commercial coal mine auctions was launched on October 29, 2025 and a total of 41 coal mines have been offered. The last date for submission of bids is December 15, 2025. The objective of this round is to further strengthen self-reliance in the coal sector, reduce

coal imports and enhance private sector participation in domestic coal production. Further, the 14th round marks the first time that specific provisions for Underground Coal Gasification have been included in India's commercial coal auction framework to harness deep seated coal resources.

(b) The details of number of mines offered in the 14th round of commercial coal mine auctions State-wise is as under:

State	Under Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015	Under Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation Act),1957	Total
Andhra Pradesh	0	3	3
Chhattisgarh	2	13	15
Madhya Pradesh	1	1	2
Maharashtra	0	5	5
Odisha	2	10	12
Telangana	0	1	1
West Bengal	0	3	3
Total	**5**	**36**	**41**

(c) Last date for submission of bids is December 15, 2025. No bid has been received as of now.

(d) The Coal Mine Development and Production Agreement mandates that all successful bidders will deploy advanced mining technologies, including mechanised extraction, transportation, reduction of carbon footprint, and development of First-Mile Connectivity. Accordingly, identification of mines for auction is undertaken with a focus on locations where such modern systems can be effectively deployed with minimal environmental disruption. For this purpose, coal blocks in eco-sensitive zones, tiger reserves, elephant corridors, Very Dense Forest (VDF > 40%) areas, CBM lease overlap, or major surface constraints (such as national highways and dense habitation) are excluded.

(e) The auction process is conducted through the secure e-auction online platform of MSTC Ltd., a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Steel. All bids submitted on the MSTC portal are encrypted to ensure data security and confidentiality. Decryption of online bids and opening of physical bids are undertaken in the presence of the participating bidders to maintain transparency. During the forward auction, the latest highest offer is visible to all eligible

bidders, enabling fair competition. Further, to ensure competitive participation, no affiliate or associated entity is allowed to participate in the auction of same coal mine.

(f) The coal mines offered in the 14th round of commercial auctions have the potential to contribute approximately 35.41 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to the domestic coal supply. This is expected to augment regional coal availability, reduce dependence on coal imports and support long-term energy security by increasing participation of private sector in coal production.

(g) & (h) Assessment of environmental carrying capacity and impact on local communities for coal mines, including those located in the state of Chhattisgarh, is carried out as per the statutory provisions under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. Prior Environmental Clearance (EC) and Forest Clearance (FC) are mandatory for each mine and require comprehensive evaluation of land use, biodiversity, air and water quality, hydrology, rehabilitation and resettlement requirements and socio-economic impact on project-affected families. Public hearings conducted by the State Pollution Control Board form an integral part of the EC process to incorporate the views of local communities. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) ensures that mining operations are within the sustainable environmental carrying capacity of the region.

Out of the 41 coal mines on offer, a total of 10 coal mines are from the Mand-Raigarh region of Chhattisgarh state while no coal mine is from the Hasdeo Aranya area. Of these 10 coal mines, 5 are partially explored and 5 mines are fully explored. These 5 fully explored coal mines are expected to enhance the state's coal production by 11.48 MTPA and are expected to provide employment to more than 15,000 people along with annual revenue of more than Rs. 1075 crores.

(i) No auction of coal mine from Sidhi Lok Sabha constituency has been carried out in FY 2025-26.

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