

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINES AND MINERALS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1379  
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2000  
OPEN CAST MINES OF NEC  
PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR

**Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:**

- (a) by when the existing Open Cast Mines of the North Eastern Coalfields are going to last;
- (b) whether the Coal India Limited have any proposal for starting other O.C.P. at new sites in the event of saturation of existing O.C.Ps of N.E.C.; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINES & MINERALS (SMT. RITA VERMA)

(a) At present North Eastern Coalfields have two opencast mines, Tirap and Tikak. Tirap will last for about two more years. But after reorganisation with the proposed diversion of national highway and railway lines, this mine will continue till the year 2009-10. Tikak opencast mine will continue till the year 2009-10.

(b) & (c) Yes, Sir. North Eastern Coalfields have proposals for starting the following new opencast mines:-

- (i) Mechanised Opencast Project between Ledo underground and K-Drift from the year 2004-05 onwards.
- (ii) Kekhapani Opencast Project from the year 2009-10 onwards.
- (iii) PQ block near Dilli Jeypore Colliery as soon as the lease for the same is granted by the Government of Assam.