

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:223

ANSWERED ON:18.03.2005

DEMAND OF COAL

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Suman Shri Ramji Lal

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the demand for coal can be fulfilled by giving mining rights for many coal blocks in the country to the big coal consumers;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether many big coal consumers in the country have applied for captive coal mines;
- (d) if so, the number of such applications and the date since when these applications have been under consideration; and
- (e) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken on these applications?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANARAO)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 223 for 18.3.2005 by SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN and Basudeb Acharia regarding Demand of Coal.

(a): Yes, Sir. The projected demand for grades of coal available in the country can be substantially fulfilled by giving mining rights for coal blocks in the country to the big coal consumers.

(b): Government companies/undertakings are being encouraged to carry out coal mining and companies engaged in generation of power, production of iron, steel and cement are allocated coal blocks for captive mining. This process has been expedited.

(c): Yes, Sir.

(d) & (e): The total number of applications received in the Ministry for captive coal blocks upto 28.06.2004 and eligible for consideration is 140. The oldest application is of January 1998. To dispose of these, applications the Screening Committee, which considers allocation of coal blocks, has met 5 times since November, 2004 and has decided on 98 applications. The remaining applications will be disposed of by April 2005.