

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2229  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2005  
DEREGULATION OF COAL SECTOR  
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to de-regulate the coal sector as reported in the Dainik Jagaran` dated October 20, 2005 ;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has assessed the potential of investment by the private sector in the coal sector; and
- (c) if so, the percentage and quantity of coal production likely to increase by encouraging private participation in the coal sector?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASAR1 NARAYANA RAO)

(a) to (c) The Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000 was introduced in Rajya Sabha in April, 2000 which seeks to permit private participation in coal mining, without the present restriction of captive use, in order to augment coal production in the country. Within the present statutory framework, private investment in coal mining would be limited to captive mining of coal for production of iron and steel, power and cement only. No detailed assessment of the potential of investment by the private sector in the coal sector and consequent increase in coal production has been made.