

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1210
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2006
OPENING COAL MINES TO PRIVATE SECTORS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to open coal mining to private sector without restriction of captive use;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to amend Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) A Bill to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in April, 2000 with the following objectives:

- i) To allow Indian companies to mine coal and lignite in the country without the existing restrictions of captive consumption.
- ii) To allow Indian companies to undertake exploration of coal and lignite resources in the country.

The Bill is pending for consideration in the Rajya Sabha.