

Abandoned CIL projects to private players

643. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) how many projects have been abandoned/discontinued by the coal India Limited during the last one year;
- (b) the names and the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the estimated loss to CIL as a result thereof;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to award the abandoned CIL projects to private players; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) The details of closed/abandoned/discontinued mines of Coal India Limited during the last one year is given below:

(Provisional)

Subsidiary	Name of Mines	Reason
Eastern Coalfields Limited	Lachipur UG	Exhaustion of reserve
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	Gobinda UG	Exhaustion of reserves

(c) There is no loss of production due to closure/abandonment/discontinuance of mines since these were closed due to exhaustion of reserves. Further, every year few new projects are started which bring in fresh production.

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal to award the abandoned Coal India Limited (CIL) projects to private players.

Status of Underground Coal Gasification Technology

644. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Underground Coal Gasification (UGC) Technology developed in the country for meeting the future energy needs;
- (b) the details of coal and lignite blocks identified, so far, for this purpose; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to popularize this technology in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The process of extraction of Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) is