

Rajasthan to Hindustan Zinc Ltd. (HZL), a public sector undertaking of Department of Mines. However, the State Government of Rajasthan revoked the said Mining Lease. HZL has filed a Revision Application against revocation orders of the State Government before the Central Tribunal. Thus, the matter is subjudice and the decision on exploitation of the deposit will depend on the orders of the Tribunal on the Revision Application. In Kayar area, however, drilling work is being carried out for techno-economic feasibility study, which is likely to be completed by March 2002.

Strike notice by workers of Singareni Collieries

862. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

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

(a) whether workers union of the Singareni Collieries gave notice of strike from 6th December, 1999.

(b) if so, the details of their demands:

(c) whether non-implementation of Sixth wage board has resulted in strike notice; and

(d) the steps taken to negotiate and settle the matter amicably?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Singareni Collieries Staff & Workers Union has given a notice for one day token strike on 06.12.1999 through out the Company.

The demands raised by the Union are as under:—

I. National Coal Wage Agreement-VI should be finalised on priority basis;

II. Management should not implement seven day week with staggering playdays;

III. All the dismissed workmen should be reappointed.

IV. Management should take immediate steps for opening new mines in Singareni Collieries Co. Limited (SCCL.).

(c) Non-finalisation of NCWA-VI is one of the demands included in the strike notice.

(d) Following steps have been taken for early finalisation of the wage agreement and to settle the issue with the Union:—

(i) The Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry-VI (JBCCI-VI) consisting of representatives of management of coal companies and five National Trade Unions was constituted on 03.04.1997 and negotiations are underway to finalise National Coal Wage Agreement-VI.

(ii) The Union has no locus-standi to raise an issue which pertains to the entire Coal Industry in the country, as it is not a recognised Union under the code of discipline.

(iii) The strike notice issued by the Union is likely to be seized in conciliation by the Regional Labour Commissioner (C), Hyderabad under the provisions of Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Regional Labour Commissioner (C) has been requested by the Management of SCCL to advise the Union to withdraw the strike notice, as the issue of finalisation of NCWA-VI is before JBCCI-VI.

(iv) SCCL is appealing to the workmen not to respond to the above call of the Union as the issue has to be settled at JBCCI level and SCCL alone cannot finalise the NCWA-VI at Company level unilaterally.

Commercial mining of Coal

863. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Limited propose to allow commercial mining of coal by domestic private companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reason therefor;

(c) whether restructuring of Coal India Limited would also be made and steps would be taken to curb the activities of mafia; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?