

Winding up of Joint Bipartite Committee in Coal Industry

2233.SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of State for MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the decision of the Board of Directors of Coal India Ltd. to wind up the Joint Bipartite Committee in Coal Industry;
- (b) if so, the details of the decision;
- (c) whether unions in Coal Industry have objected to the decision of Coal India Management; and
- (d) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) The Board of Directors of Coal India Limited had passed a resolution on 16.7.1999 that a recommendation be made to the Department of Coal to wind up the Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry (JBCCI) and that wage negotiations may be held at the subsidiary company level in accordance with the capacity of the subsidiary to pay.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) JBCCI is still in position and negotiations are in progress. No proposal has been received from CIL for winding up of JBCCI so far.

Rates of Royalty on Minerals

2234.SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Bihar Government has represented to streamline the existing system of departmentally fixing the rates of royalty on minerals;
- (b) whether Government proposed to set up a structure body of experts, to revise these rates;
- (c) whether a decision has been taken to revise the rates of royalty for Lignite and other minerals every three years; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for not revising the rates for minerals since 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) From time to time the State Governments make representation to the Central Government for streamlining the existing system of fixation of rates of royalty and enhancement in the rates of royalty. Normally a Study Group comprising representatives of State Governments, the Industry, Technical Authorities and other concerned Ministries/Departments is constituted by the Government for revision of rates of royalty within the frame work of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. Such Study Group makes recommendations about revision