

(e) whether no revision has taken place and if so, the reasons therefor and what action Government proposes to take to revise the pension immediately to provide relief to the poor pensioners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Coal Mines Pension Scheme 1998 was notified on 5 March, 1998 and was given effect from 31-3-1998. Employees who opted for pension under the said scheme and fulfilled conditions mentioned in the scheme are eligible for the pension.

(b) Employees who have rendered at least 10 years of pensionable service and have made exit from service on or after first April, 1994 are eligible for pension under Coal Mines Pension Scheme, 1998 subject to making contributions and fulfilling other conditions as provided under the scheme. An employee on completion of thirty years of pensionable service and on attaining the age of superannuation is eligible to receive monthly pension at the rate of twenty five percent of the average emoluments.

(c) and (d) There is no provision of revision of pension after any specific period of time. However, under clause 22(1) of Coal Mines Pension Scheme, 1998, there is a provision of valuation of pension fund every third year by an Actuary to be appointed by the Board of Trustees (BOT), Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization. The recommendations of the Actuary are required to be placed by the Commissioner before the BOT. There has been no revision of pension since inception of Coal Mines Pension Scheme, 1998 i.e. from 31.3.1998.

(e) On the basis of valuation of pension fund made available so far, Board of Trustee, (BOT) has not made any recommendation for revision of pension. At present the valuation of the pension fund has been entrusted and being conducted by National Institute of Financial Management, Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Faridabad. The benefits under Coal Mines Pension Scheme, (CMPS), 1998 are in addition to the benefits provided under Coal Mines Provident Fund Scheme.

Process of coal production

869. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH:

SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Ministry has asked the State Governments to expedite the Process of coal production in several captive blocks that have been lying idle due to delay in obtaining clearances;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has allocated a large number of coal mines for production, but only a few have become operational; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof and the steps taken to expedite coal production process in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) During the Review meetings convened by the Ministry of Coal, the State Governments were

requested to expedite the process of land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation, environment and forest clearances etc. so that the coal blocks can be developed expeditiously by the allocatees.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, Till March, 2009, 201 coal blocks have been allocated, out of which 25 coal blocks have come into production. The other blocks are in different stages of development. Coal mining projects have a relatively long gestation period. The Coal Controller under the Ministry of Coal has been mandated to monitor the progress of the mine and the end use projects in detail. Based on the report of the Coal Controller, the Ministry reviews the cases and wherever found necessary, the Ministry takes appropriate measures on merits including deallocation where warranted. At the Ministry level, the progress in development of Coal blocks is reviewed by a committee under the Chairmanship of Addl. Secretary (Coal). Genuine problems of allocatees are highlighted during this meeting and efforts are made to sort them out.

Extraction of Coal

870. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether 182 blocks worth 41,410 million tonnes of coal reserves were allocated to PSUs and private sector companies between 1987 and 2007;

(b) if so, the number of coal blocks which have started production and the quantity of coal produced during these twenty years;

(c) whether the coal controller has been monitoring the amount of coal extracted and utilized; and

(d) when the coal reserves of 41,410 million tonnes would be extracted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The allocation of coal blocks was started from 1993. Between 1993 and 2008, 182 coal blocks with about 41.477 billion tonnes of coal reserves were allotted to public/private sector companies under the relevant provisions of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973.

(b) The production from the allocated blocks started from the year 1997. The details of coal blocks that started production and the year-wise quantity of coal produced since 1997 are given below:-

Year	No. of coal blocks	Production (In Million Tonnes)
1	2	3
1997-98	2	0.71
1998-99	3	1.83
1999-2000	3	2.95
2000-01	3	3.83