

Furnishing wrong accounts by Coal India Limited officials

1316. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA;
SHRI SHARAD YADAV;
SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI
RATHVAKOLI; SHRI
RASHEED MASOOD;
SHRIMATI RENUKA
CHOWDHURY; SHRI
VALAMPURI JOHN: SHRI V.
NARAYANASAMY;
SHRI KAPIL VERMA;
SHRI M. S. GURUPAD-
SWAMY.;
SHRI J. P. GOYAL;

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 734 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th July, 1986 and state;

(a) whether the sub-group of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Energy has since submitted its report about the allegation that three former top Coal India Limited officials have deliberately manipulated the accounts to project an exaggerated picture of good performance by companies headed by them; and

(b) if go. what are the details regarding this matter and what action has been taken against the persons responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE); (a) and (b) The Sub-Group of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Energy has submitted its report recently. The Sub-Group have observed *inter alia* that the then Chairman, Coal India Limited, the then Chairman-cum-Managing Director Bharat Coking Coa' Limited and the then Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Western Coalfields Limited, all the three, were to retire during the year 1985 and hence they seem to have made deliberate attempt to project exaggerated rosy picture of the companies headed by them.

In April, 1985, Coal India Limited reported that on the basis of the best possible estimates of subsidiaries, Coal India Limited had made a profit of Rs. 13.83 crores during the year 1984-85. With the completion of statutory audit and financial accounts of Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries, it was found that coal India Limited had suffered an overall loss of Rs. 78.03 crores.

The main variations were found to be in the accounts of two companies, namely, Bharat Coking Coal Limited where the loss increased by Rs. 60.87 crores and Western Coalfields Limited where profit decreased by Rs. 29.01 crores from the original estimates. A Task Force was constituted by the Government which went into the reasons for variation in Bharat Coking Coal Limited's reported loss in the estimates of cost accounts and audited financial accounts as the variation was substantial in respect of this Company. In Western Coalfields Limited also, an Internal Committee was constituted by the Western Coalfields Limited to probe into the variations in accounts of this Company. Based on the findings of Task Force/Internal Committee, appropriate disciplinary action has been initiated against the erring officers.

While there is no provision in the Coal India Limited's Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules to take action against the retired officers, if action had not been initiated against them while in service, the comments of the then CMDs on the observations of the Sub-Group have been called for.

Letters of intent recommended by Orissa Government for clearance

1317. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY;. Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) how many cases for issue of letters of intent recommended by the State Government of Orises, are pending with the Central Government for clearance and the duration of their pendency; and

(b) what action Government propose to take to finalise the same?