

Allocation of coal to Gujarat

1058. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that coal is allocated to power plants in Gujarat from Eastern Coalfields;
- (b) whether the State suffers a huge freight cost due to transportation of coal from collieries far away from the State;
- (c) whether Gujarat Government has represented to the Ministry for allocation of coal from collieries located nearer to the State;
- (d) what are the criteria for allocation of coal from WCL; and
- (e) the action taken by the Ministry to allocate coal from WCL to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):

(a) No, Sir. The power plants located in Gujarat are being supplied coal from the coalfields of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) and Western Coalfields Limited (WCL).

(b) Since the power plants located in Gujarat are far away from the coalfields of the country, railway freight is higher in comparison to the States located nearer to the coalfields.

(c) Recently, a communication has been received by Ministry of Coal from an Hon'ble Member of Parliament suggesting allocation of coal to Gujarat State from collieries of Western Coalfields Limited.

(d) and (e) Presently, 95% of coal supplies to the Power Utilities of Gujarat are from the coalfields of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) located in the State of Chhattisgarh, which is the nearest coalfields wherein coal is available on a long-term basis. All the power stations of Gujarat come under the purview of Ministry of Environment and Forest stipulations and are required to use coal with ash content below 34% which is available from SECL coalfields. Further, keeping in view the existing coal commitments of Western Coalfields Limited and with no appreciable growth prospects in coal production in the coming years in Western Coalfields Limited, it may not be possible to consider any further rationalization of sources from WCL for the power plants of Gujarat at this stage.

Allocation of coal to Sattupalli thermal power station

1059. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry of Power had recommended to his Ministry to allocate 3.25 MT coal long term linkage for 600 MW Sattupalli Thermal Power Station but sanction for the same has not been given, so far;