

#### Grant for prospecting licence to Arcelor Mittal

\*160. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Jharkhand has sent an out-of-turn recommendation to the Central Government for 'prior approval' for grant of Prospecting Licence over an area of 1087 hectare in Karampada RF to Arcelor Mittal;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government has ensured that the recommendation is strictly based on evaluation of applicants as per the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the recommendation, including comparative statement u/s 11(3) of MMDR Act, has also been examined by the Central Government and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUÉ): (a) The Government of Jharkhand had, *vide* their letter No. Kha.Ni. (Chai.)-01/2008-869/M dated 8.7.2008, sent a proposal seeking prior approval of the Central Government under Section 5 (1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957 for Prospecting Licence for Iron ore and Manganese ore over an area of 1087.75 hectares in Karampara RF, District West Singhbhum in favour of M/s. Arcelor Mittal for a period of 3 years.

(b) to (d) The Central Government examined the proposal with reference to the provisions of the MMDR Act, 1957 including Section 11 (3), and *vide* letter No. 5/113/2008-M.IV dated 22.10.2008 referred the proposal back to the State Government for the reasons that a part of the area recommended had been notified for grant of mining lease and a part of the area was not notified. It was conveyed to the State Government that the proposals for notified areas and non-notified areas attract different provisions of the MMDR Act, 1957, and therefore the State Government should send separate proposals for the notified and non-notified areas. The State Government has, on 19.12.2009, accordingly sent two proposals for 662.95 hectares of notified area and for 416.93 hectares of non-notified area.

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#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

##### People displaced by MCL

1050. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people displaced for mining by the Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL);

(b) the number of families offered /provided employment till date;

(c) by when Government would clear the backlog of displaced persons mostly SCs and STs; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay?

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

(a) In Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) a total of 10,446 project affected families have been displaced for mining.

(b) 8944 project affected families have been provided with employment till the year 2009.

(c) MCL has reported that out of the remaining families, 332 project affected persons who are eligible for employment will be provided employment by May 2010.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

#### **Fire at Chhindwara and Betul Coalfields**

†1051. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the coal mines of Western Coalfields Ltd. situated in the districts of Chhindwara and Betul where incidents of fire occurred in coal storages during the last three years;

(b) the factors that necessitated stock-piling of coal in the above mines;

(c) the pecuniary losses suffered due to burning of coal due to fire mine-wise; and

(d) the officials responsible for the outbreak of fire in these coal storages of coal mines and the details of action taken or to be taken against the guilty/negligent officers?

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

(a) No incident of fire has occurred in coal stocks during the last three years in Western Coalfield Ltd. in the districts of Chhindwara and Betul.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of reply given to part (a) above.

#### **Coal production in Mahanadi Coalfields**

1052. SHRI. MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what was the quantity of coal production of Mahanadi Coalfields at Sambalpur in Orissa during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the difference of quantity of coal between production and dispatch;

(c) the balance quantity of the coal in the coal stock yard;

(d) the mismatch quantity of coal stock, year-wise; and

(e) why coal burning in underground mines and hi stock yard was not checked up?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.