

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Coal/lignite blocks for captive use are allocated to eligible public and private sector companies for generation of power, production of iron & steel, production of cement and production of syn-gas through coal gasification (underground and surface) and coal liquefaction.

Government has so far allocated 208 coal blocks. Of these, 147 coal blocks have been allocated to various public and private sector companies for captive use in the specified end uses.

New coal distribution policy

1828. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any plans to review the new coal distribution policy;
- (b) if so, the details of the plans for the sustainable energy security regarding coal; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The New Coal Distribution Policy, notified by the Ministry of Coal on 18th October, 2007, inter-alia, provides that full requirements of Defence sector and Railways, 100% of the "normative requirement" for Power/Fertilizer sector and 75% of the "normative requirement" for other consumers would be considered for supply through Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) by coal companies. The policy also provides that the linkage system would be replaced with a more transparent bilateral commercial arrangement of enforceable Fuel Supply Agreement. It has also been provided that in order to meet full requirement of coal under Fuel Supply Agreement, coal companies may have to import, if required, from time to time and they may adjust its overall price accordingly. By and large, the present policy has been found to be working satisfactorily.

Losses of stamp and registration fee

†1829. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that coal companies don't have agreement carried out with the State Governments and, as a result, State Governments incur huge losses of stamp and registration fee;
- (b) if so, whether, in order to compensate huge losses to the State Governments, the Central Government would consider repealing of Coal Bearing Act, or making provisions for registration in the said Act; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, whether the Central Government is considering to compensate this huge losses to the State Governments on its own, or would take some other measures to check losses to State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) [Land under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition & Development) Act, 1957 (CBA (A&D) Act, 1957)] is acquired by the Central Government and transferred to Government companies for coal projects after complying with all the provisions of the said Act. The question of any loss of revenue on account of registration and stamp duty to the State Governments does not arise. State Governments earn revenue on coal removed or consumed by coal companies in the form of royalty.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

Appointment of independent financial consultant by OIL

1830. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited has appointed an independent financial consultant instead of merchant bankers to help it with valuation for disinvestment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether OIL is among the State firms in queue for making public offering and decided to disinvest upto 15 per cent equity in the company through an initial public offering; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a) above.

(c) and (d) While conferring the status of Navratna, the Government have asked Coal India Ltd. (CIL) to get listed within 3 years from the date of conferring of the said status. This would involve divestment of some percentage of Government holding in the equity shares of CIL. Necessary steps such as amendments in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of CIL, dematerialization of shares, consultations with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) etc, have been initiated.

Diversion of coal field areas

1831. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has laid a policy for grant of permission for diverting coal field areas in forest land;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and