

Private companies under Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.

2452. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of private company engaged by the Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL);
- (b) how many employees they have engaged there;
- (c) what are the contracts between private parties and MCL; and
- (d) the details thereof for the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) Depending upon the exigency of work, Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) awards contracts to suitable contractors, who may be a private company or business firm or any other type of business organization. As on 31.12.2009, 137 such contractors were awarded contracts.

(b) Total number of workers engaged by the different contractors in MCL is 10382 as on 31.12.2009.

(c) and (d) The contracts relate to different jobs in various locations in civil, electrical & mechanical works, hiring of HEMM equipments etc. for mechanical transfer of coal.

Contract labourers for mining works in Kanhan

†2453. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether contract labourers are being engaged for mining works in Kanhan area mines in Western Coalfields Ltd;

(b) if so, the details of daily wages paid to these labourers and the nature of tasks for which they are engaged;

(c) the other benefits available to them apart from wages and whether provident fund, EPF or GPF deductions are also made and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any complaint or notice of 'Dharna' has been received by Kanhan Area Management during January-February regarding low payment of wages and if so, the action taken thereon?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a)
No contract labourer is engaged directly by the Western Coalfields Limited. However, certain works are given on contract for which the contractors deploy their workmen.

(b) Labourers engaged by the contractors are being paid the minimum wages as per payment under the Minimum Wages Act. They are engaged for dusting, white washing, drilling of holes, ventilation stopping etc.

(c) The benefits available to the labourers apart from wages are as per the provisions of the contract agreement and Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. Provident fund deductions are made as per rules in respect of all eligible labourers.

(d) A notice for dharna/demonstration was received from Area General Secretary, Coal Mine Engineering Workers Association in January, 2010. The matter has been taken up by the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Chhindwara.

Captive coal development

2454. DR T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the States to expedite captive coal development;

(b) if so, whether Government has also allocated 34 coal blocks with reserves of 11 billion tonnes to State utilities;

(c) whether the Ministries of Power and Coal have observed little progress in developing mines from coal blocks by 10 utilities;

(d) whether Ministry of Power has asked the States to expedite development of these captive blocks to match the commissioning of new thermal projects; and

(e) if so, to what extent they have been successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) The sector-wise details of coal blocks allocated to the State public sector companies including the power utilities is given below: