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Group-VI	Coal produced in Andhra Pradesh	The formula based on a combination of fixed and <i>ad-valorem</i> components would also be applicable to Andhra Pradesh as per the grades of coal.

The revised royalty rate of lignite is Rs. 45+2% of lignite price per tonne.

(c) The Government has constituted a new Study Group under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) on 04.02.2010 for considering the issue of next revision of royalty rates of coal and lignite.

Allocation of coal block to GIPCL

3226. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat Government has recommended the proposal of Gujarat Industries Power Company Limited (GIPCL) for allocation of South of Rajpardi Block in Gujarat for its Underground Coal Gasification Project with ONGC, under State PSU's dispensation;

(b) if so, by when the proposal would be considered by the Central Government;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that GIPCL has already completed major critical parameters involved in the project for early implementation; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the delay in according approval thereto?

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

(a) Government has received a request of M/s Gujarat Industries Power Company Limited (GIPCL) for allocation of South of Rajpardi Block in Gujarat for Underground Coal Gasification project with ONGC.

(b) and (c) Allocation of coal blocks for specified end uses is an on-going process and as and when the coal blocks are identified and earmarked for allocation, the same are considered for allocation. At present no coal/lignite blocks are on offer for allocation for Underground Coal Gasification.

(d) As per the representation received from the Government of Gujarat, GIPCL has made certain developments at their own.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply given at (b) and (c) above.

Illegal mining in Asansol-Raniganj-Jharia coal belt

3227. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the on going large-scale illegal mining in Asansol-Raniganj-Jharia coal belt areas;

(b) if so, whether Government has sought any help from the State Governments to stop these illegal mining activities;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL):
(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Since, law and order is a State subject, primarily it is the responsibility of State/District administration to take necessary deterrent action to stop/curb illegal mining. Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and its subsidiaries are also associated closely with the concerned State and District authorities to deal with this menace. Following measures have been taken by the Government with the help from coal PSUs to prevent illegal coal mining:—

- (i) Rat holes created by illegal mining are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible.
- (ii) Trenches have been dug to isolate the illegal mining sites.
- (iii) Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
- (iv) Fencing of illegal mining sites and displaying of sign boards mentioning Dangerous and Prohibited Place .
- (v) Dumping of overburden is being done on the outcrop zones.
- (vi) Erection of barbed-wire/wall fencing around pithead depots, static security manning including deployment of armed guards during the night hours.
- (vii) Sealing of illegal mining spots is resorted to. Stringent action is taken against transport vehicles caught in the act of theft or pilferage.
- (viii) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training to new recruits in security discipline are arranged for strengthening the security set up.
- (ix) Engaging of lady security guard for preventing women and children indulging in theft/pilferage of coal, strengthening of the security discipline by reassessing the requirement of security personnel, horizontal movement of executives with aptitude for security work and inducting qualified security personnel at junior, middle and senior levels.
- (x) Ministry of Coal has been urging from time to time the Coal Producing States to check illegal mining. The State Governments were also advised to instruct their State law enforcing authorities to take stringent action under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 curbing illegal activities.
- (xi) The Ministry of Coal has written to the Chief Secretaries of the coal producing States requesting them to put in place effective mechanism to check illegal mining. The

States were also asked to give appropriate direction to the concerned authorities to take effective steps to check such illegal activities at places where large scale illegal mining was believed to be taken place. The State Governments were also advised to consider framing of suitable Rules, if not already done, under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 to strengthen the hands of District authorities in curbing such illegal activities.

- (xii) Based on the decisions taken in the meeting held on 17.05.2005 between Secretary (Coal) and Chief Secretary (Jharkhand), Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL) and Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL) have taken up action to check illegal mining. Joint action for prevention of illegal mining has been initiated by the management of coal companies and District Administration. Government of Jharkhand has constituted State as well as District level Task forces for this purpose.
- (xiii) Minister of State (I/C) for Coal also had meetings with the Chief Minister, West Bengal on 24.06.2009 and with His Excellency, the Governor of Jharkhand on 26.05.2009 to request the concerned State Government to check/curb the illegal mining activities under their respective States.
- (xiv) In September 2009, Ministry of Coal again requested Chief Secretaries of coal bearing States to instruct their State law enforcing authorities to take stringent action under the provisions of the MMDR Act, 1957 to check illegal mining activities.
- (xv) Chairman, CIL has written on 13.02.2010 to all its subsidiary companies to take steps to curb illegal mining activities.
- (xvi) Chairman, CIL also wrote the Director, CBI on 18.02.2010 for involvement of CBI to bring much needed close coordination between the coal companies, State police and Administration to take up the matter seriously to curb the theft of coal and illegal mining activities.
- (d) Does not arise in view of reply given to parts (a) to (c) above.

Accidents in coal mines

3228. SHRI SHYAMAL CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of coal mine workers involved in accidents during the last three years;
- (b) the amount of compensation disbursed to the victims of the accidents; and
- (c) the causes for the accidents in each case?

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

(a) and (c) The total number of fatal/serious accidents occurred and coal mine workers involved/killed in fatal accidents during the last three years in Coal India Limited (CIL) and The