

- (vii). Examining the current policy of providing captive coal mining and considering recommendations which might reduce the demand-supply gap.

(d) The Committee will submit its report within a period of three months.

Irregularities in the sale of coal

†2226. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to conduct C.B.I. investigation in the matter related to irregularities found in the sale of coal;

(b) if so, the comprehensive details of irregularities committed in the sale of coal; and

(c) the officials responsible for the said irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c) Complaints are received from time to time on misuse of coal by some linked consumers in the non-core sector who commit the following types of irregularities:

- (i) draw coal in the name of non existing/non functioning unit.
- (ii) even when the unit is functioning, a large part of the coal drawn is sold off in the market at a premium.

Wherever such instances are brought to notice, they are verified and if found to be taking place, coal supplies are immediately stopped. Where any official is found to be responsible, appropriate departmental action is also taken.

The issue of misuse of coal by linked consumers in non-core sector was discussed at a high level meeting in Kolkata on 24.11.04 and it was decided to take up intensive verification of bonafides of such consumers by the vigilance units of coal companies.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.