

illegal mining, and has registered 9 criminal cases on alleged illegal mining and 2 cases of disproportionate assets. The cases are under investigation.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

### Annual growth in coal production

3411. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the world's largest coal producer and the country's second biggest company on market capitalization, the Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has found it difficult to retain those items with environmental hurdles thwarting its plan to scale up production and boost revenue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the company has cut 16 per cent in its production target for Twelfth Five Year Plan period that will bring down its coal output to 556 million tonnes from earlier planned 663 million tonnes and the annual growth in coal production is set to fall to 4 per cent against 8 per cent growth; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) The major cause of missing the target of coal production set for the year 2010-11 is the moratorium imposed by Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) for taking new expansion projects in areas having Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) above 70, which included 7 major coalfield areas of CIL. MoEF has now lifted the moratorium in 5 areas. The remaining two coalfields are Korba and Chandrapur.

Inordinate delays in getting forestry clearance is the other environmental hurdle faced by the company, having adverse impacts on its growth plan. Other factors responsible for reduced production included adverse law and order situation in the states of Jharkhand and Orissa, non-finalisation of some contracts related to production due to Court litigation and excessively high rain fall in WCL areas leading to drowning of a mine.

(c) At the time of preparation of XI Plan document, the original target for CIL was envisaged to produce 664 Mt. in 2016-17 after which constraints of delays in obtaining forestry and environmental clearances of a large number of new/expansion projects, land acquisition and related R&R issues, law and order problems arose.

Subsequently, additional environmental issues, Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI) compounded the problem in the growing coalfields. Further lack of evacuation facilities in some growing coalfields viz. Northern Karanpura, Talcher, IB valley & Mand Raigarh caused build up of pithead stocks which resulted in restriction of production in some subsidiaries compelling it to reduce the target from 664 Mt. to 556.40 Mt.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to improve the situation include; to expedite Environment & Forestry clearances, pursue with Ministry of Railways for enhancing availability of rail rakes and approach State Government for necessary assistance in matters relating to land acquisition and law and order. In addition, a series of steps have also been taken by Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries for augmenting coal production which include (i) increasing the efficiency of the equipments, regular monitoring, mechanization as programmed and strict supervision of the existing mines and ongoing projects. (ii) Capacity addition from new and future projects (iii) Consistent efforts for resolving issues of environmental & forestry clearances, land acquisition and law and order problems with State/Central Government.

#### **Demand and supply gap for coal**

3412. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gap of demand and supply of coal is about 84 million tonnes during the current fiscal year and is likely to touch 142 million tonnes during the next fiscal year: and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to reduce the demand and supply gap?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) As per the Annual Plan 2011-12 of Ministry of Coal, the all India Demand of coal is envisaged to be 696.03 million tonnes in the