

The present notified prices of Grade A and Grade B coal effective from 27.02.2011 are as under:

Type of Coal	Pithead Notified Price of ROM Grade A Coal (Rs./Tonne)	Pithead Notified Price of ROM Grade B Coal (Rs./Tonne)
Long-Flame	4100	3990
Non Long-Flame	3690	3590

(d) During the last five years i.e. from the Year 2006-07 to 2010-11, revision in raw coal price has taken place on three occasions i.e. on 12.12.2007, 16.10.2009 and 27.02.2011. In the price revision effective from 12.12.2007, the average percentage increase in price was 10% and in the price revision effective from 16.10.2009, the average increase was 11%.

In the last price revision effective from 27.02.2011

- (i) There has been no increase in price of raw coal for Grades other than Grade A and Grade B for supply to consumers in the Regulated Sector (Power Sector, Fertilizers and Defence).
- (ii) There has been 30% increase in price of coal for Grades other than Grade A and Grade B for supply to consumers in the Non-Regulated sector.
- (iii) The Prices of Grade A and Grade B of coal produced by the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) including North Eastern Coalfields (NEC) have been increased and brought at par and are also same for supply to all the sectors of consumers. The increase ranges from 73% to 187% varying from subsidiary to subsidiary.
- (iv) The prices of coal for Grades other than A & B produced by the collieries of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) have been brought to the level of prices of equivalent grades of coal produced by the Korba and Raigarh field of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL).
- (e) At present, no downward revision in coal price is envisaged.

Levy of taxes on minerals

†*279. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the Ministry proposes to reconsider the existing policy of levying excise and sales tax on major minerals by the Central Government and imposition of surcharges on them by the State Governments which results in doubling the tax liability for mining companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to declare major minerals included in the first schedule as unimportant minerals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) As per the draft Mines and Mineral (Development and Regulation) Bill, 2011 approved by Government on 30.9.2011, the Central Government may levy and collect a cess not exceeding two and one half per cent on major minerals on the basis of customs and excise duty, *inter alia* for funding expenditures of independent authorities to be set up for mineral sector, promoting scientific mining research and development, capacity building of technical regulators, promotion of information technology in mining sector, and detection and prevention of illegal mining. The draft Bill also provides that State Governments may levy and collect a cess on major minerals and minor minerals not exceeding ten per cent of the royalty for capacity building of State regulatory bodies, setting up of Special Courts and for curbing illegal mining.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. However, the draft Bill proposes that prior approval of the Central Government shall be necessary only in the matters pertaining to coal minerals, atomic minerals and beach sand minerals.

Comprehensive scheme for J & K

*280.PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that Jammu and Kashmir is deficient in power and people suffer for want of it, especially during winters; and

(b) whether Government would devise a comprehensive scheme to cover the hinterland of the State such as Tulail, Machil, Keran, Gurez, Karnah, Marh, Mahoor, areas in Rangarh, Basohli, Billawar, etc. through solar system?