

Shortage of coal in thermal power stations

637. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the alarming situation regarding shortage of coal stocks faced by the thermal power stations;
- (b) what is the present installed coal production capacity in the country, State-wise and company/field-wise and what are the details of current stocks available;
- (c) what are the reasons for the lag in production and transportation of coal; and
- (d) what are the steps taken by Government for addressing the problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Out of 89 coal based power plants monitored by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on daily basis, 52 power plants were having critical coal stock position of less than 7 days' consumption, as on 22.11.2011. Out of this, 32 power plants were having super critical stock with less than 3 days' consumption. Dispatches from Coal India Limited (CIL) sources to power utilities during April - October, 2011 were 165.43 Million Tonnes with 88% materialization of 187.07 Million Tonnes committed under Fuel Supply Agreement / Memorandum of Understanding. Coal dispatches to power stations went down during the second quarter of this year mainly due to heavy rains in the coalfields during August/September, severely affecting transportation and wagon loading.

(b) The relevant information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The reasons for less production and transportation of coal from CIL sources are as under:

- (i) Delay in environmental and forestry clearances of major projects.
- (ii) Delay in land acquisition of the projects.
- (iii) Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) issues, demand beyond stipulated norms.
- (iv) Delay in implementation of rail infrastructure projects in a few growing coalfields like IB/Talcher, NK, Mand-Raigarh etc.
- (v) Law and order problem particularly in the States of Odisha & Jharkhand.

(vi) Projects being affected due to embargo imposed in view of Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index (CEPI).

(d) The following steps are being taken by CIL to overcome these problems and enhance coal production :

- (i) Improving capacity utilization by efficiency improvement and modernization.
- (ii) Implementation of ongoing projects in time bound manner to achieve targeted production as per schedule.
- (iii) Efforts being taken by all the subsidiaries for obtaining Environment/ Forest Clearance (EC/FC) within the schedule time frame so that projects could be able to start production in time.
- (iv) Liaisoning with the State Government agencies to acquire land for identified & expansion projects.

Transparency in tender system of NCL

638. SHRI PRABHAT JHA :

SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the irregularities has been reported in awarding the tenders and supply orders for mining equipments and their accessories in Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL), Singrauli;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether CBI has raided the various places in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the details of persons/firms whose responsibility has been fixed in this regard;
- (f) whether Government would take steps to bring transparency in tender system of NCL;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) if not, the reasons therefor?