

**Supply of coal to power sector**

4812. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the power sector was critically affected due to the problem of coal supply during the last year;
- (b) if so, the demand of coal by the power sector and the amount actually supplied; and
- (c) the reasons for short supply of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) During 2011-12, as against the Annual Contracted Quantity of 363.90 Million Tonnes to be supplied by Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) to the power plants, the actual supply was 348.51 Million Tonnes, which is about 96% of target. However, there was a growth in coal supplies of 11.62 Million Tonnes or 3.5% over supplies made to the power plants during 2010-11, as a result of which the coal based power generation witnessed a growth of 9.2% over the previous year.

(c) The supply of coal from CIL and SCCL, the major supplier of coal to power plants, was affected during 2011-12 largely due to the following reasons:

- (i) unloading constraints in some thermal power plants, leading to higher turnaround time of wagons,
- (ii) inadequate placement of MGR rakes by the pit-head power stations,
- (iii) self regulation of supplies by some power stations,
- (iv) sporadic incidents of law and order in the coalfields of Jharkhand and Odisha, affecting transportation of coal to sidings,
- (v) less off-take during monsoon due to heavy rains which affected transportation in the coalfields.
- (vi) prolonged strike in SCCL during September-October 2011.

**Allocation of coal blocks in Odisha**

4813. SHRI PYARIMOHAN MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the coal reserves in Odisha are being depleted excessively by allocating coal blocks to other States in comparison to other coal bearing States;

(b) the reasons for favouring Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh, both coal bearing States by allocating coal blocks to their PSUs in Odisha; and

(c) whether Government has taken the views of the State Governments in allocation of specific coal blocks and if not, the reasons therefor?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) To ensure equitable distribution of the coal resources, the coal blocks located in the State of Odisha were also allocated to other States. The allocation of coal blocks for captive purpose to public/private companies was done through the mechanism of an inter-Ministerial inter-Governmental body called the Screening Committee. The Screening Committee was chaired by the Secretary (Coal) and had representation from Ministry of Steel, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Ministry of Environment and Forest, Ministry of Railways, Coal India Limited (CIL), CIL Subsidiaries, CMPDIL, NLC and the concerned State Governments. Allocation were decided by the Government on the recommendations of the Screening Committee taking into account, *inter-alia*, techno-economic viability of end-use project, state of project preparedness, compatibility in terms of quality and quantity of coal in a block with the requirement of end user and track record of applicant company, recommendations of the State Government and the Administrative. Ministry concerned. Coal blocks are allocated by the Government under the provisions contained in Section 3(3)(a) of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973.

#### **Exploration of coal reserves**

4814. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India, the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Ltd., the Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. and the Mineral Exploration Corporation of India have done exploration of coal reserves in the country;

(b) if so, the geological reserves of coal that have , so far, been estimated; and

(c) the plans being made to increase the production of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the inventory prepared by Geological Survey of India, the geological resource of coal in the country as on 01.04.2012 is estimated at 2,93,497.15 million tonne.