

(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.

(c) The actual coal production achieved in the year 2011-12, the terminal year of the XI Five Year Plan of 539.79 Million Tonnes (MT) (Coal India Ltd. (CIL): 435.84 MT, Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL): 52.21 MT, Captive: 36.24 MT and Others: 15.50 MT) is planned to reach 574.40 MT (CIL: 464.10 MT, SCCL: 53.10 MT, Captive: 39.20 MT and Others: 18.00 MT) in 2012-13 and 795 MT (CIL: 615 MT, SCCL: 57 MT, Captive: 100 MT and Others: 23 MT) in 2016-17, the terminal year of the XII Five Year Plan.

Royalty on coal

4815. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to increase the royalty on coal and lignite to be given to states;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether coal and lignite producing States were consulted before deciding the amount of increase in royalty; and

(d) how much effect it is going to have on the financial position of the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. As per the recommendations of the Study Group, constituted by the Ministry of Coal for revision of royalty rates on coal and lignite, the Government has decided for adoption of ad-valorem regime, in place of present hybrid formula for charging royalty on coal and lignite, as demanded by the coal bearing States. According to the Gazette Notification No. GSR 349(E) dated 10.5.2012, published by the Government in this regard, royalty on coal and lignite have been revised @ of 14% ad- valorem and 6% ad-valorem respectively.

(c) and (d) The above Study Group held extensive deliberations on the issues involved and held consultations with all the stakeholders which included the State Governments (both coal/lignite producing as well as consuming States), the concerned Ministry/Departments/Organizations of the Central Government, major coal consumers e.g. NTPC, SAIL, cement manufacturers, Industry Associations and Coal producing companies. As per the estimates, the royalty revenue earning of major coal producing States would increase on an average upto 17.31% for coal and 14.53% for lignite. Based on present production level the revenue from the royalty on coal and lignite will increase to Rs. 6980 crores from Rs. 5950 crores, being