

- (viii) Global Positioning System (GPS) has introduced to track the coal transportation from mine to unloading place.
- (ix) Electronic weighbridge for weighment of coal has been introduced.
- (x) Management has been taking action for filling/dozing/scaling/blasting of the old/abandoned exposed coalfaces in passed manner.

Coal production

†1243. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the coal production is declining owing to monopoly of the Coal India Ltd.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is formulating any policy to augment the coal production; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. All India coal production has increased from 430.832 million tonnes during 2006-07 to 532.694 million tonnes during 2010-11. The coal production by CIL has also increased from 360.91 million tonnes to 431.32 million tonnes during this period.

(c) and (d) In order to augment production of coal, Government has been taking a series of measures including steps to expedite Environment and Forestry clearances, pursue with Ministry of Railways for enhancing availability of rail rakes and approach State Government for necessary assistance in land acquisition and in problems relating to law and order. In addition, a number of steps have 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 and forestry clearances, land acquisition and law and order problems.

Meeting of Group of Ministers

†1244. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the held-up projects relating to coal have been reconsidered in the meeting of Group of Ministers; and;
- (b) if so, the details of projects that have been given approval, State-wise?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.