

of the Programme started in Rabi season 2007-08, 4892 demonstrations were carried out and Rs. 21.59 crore were released by the Government of India. During Phase-II of the programme, total fund of Rs. 1431 lakh has been released to carryout 2921 demonstrations out of which 964 have been completed.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Clearances to coal projects

1241. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many coal projects in the country were set to get clearances from various authorities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that due to delay in clearing the coal projects, the coal production in the country has suffered a lot; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) At present, 180 forestry proposals of different subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) involving an area of 28484.49 Ha forest land are awaiting clearances at various levels. Out of 180 proposals, 131 proposals are awaiting approvals for Stage II. Further, 70 applications for environmental clearances are awaiting approvals at various levels.

(c) and (d) For CIL the initially projected production in the terminal year *i.e.* 2011-12 of the Eleventh Plan was 520 Mt. However, the production target was revised downwards to 486 Mt during the Mid-Term Review of Eleventh Plan mainly due to considerable delay in obtaining forestry clearances, tenancy land acquisition and associated Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R and R) issues as well as delay in obtaining environmental clearances in number of projects which were envisaged to contribute during the Eleventh Plan period.

For the Annual Plan 2011-12, CIL's production target was set at 447 Mt but because of further delay caused due to imposition of a moratorium on new and expansion projects in areas having Comprehensive Environmental Pollution Index above 70 which included 7 coalfields of CIL.

Pilferage of coal

1242. SHRI BALVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:
SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether instances of pilferage and theft of coal from Government owned mining areas have been registered;