

**Setting up of coal regulator**

2336. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to set up an independent coal regulator and set up a panel to frame the powers of the proposed regulator;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the independent regulation of the coal sector is important to ensure competitiveness of e-auction sales, fixing guidelines for price revision, fixing trading margins and increasing transparency in allocation of reserves; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (d) The Government has proposed to set up an independent Coal Regulatory Authority to regulate and conserve resources in the coal sector. The draft Bill, 2012 for setting up of Independent Regulatory Authority for coal sector has been referred for consideration of a Group of Ministers and thereafter the details will be finalized.

**Untapped coal reserves in SCCL**

2337. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of untapped coal reserves in Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL);

(b) what efforts the Ministry is making to explore the same;

(c) whether SCCL is looking for any alternatives for its future survival; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) The assessed geological coal reserves in the command area of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) stand at about 9877 million tonnes of which 2064 million tonnes stand consumed on account of the production from the mines since inception of the Company. About 2344 million tonnes of reserves are available in the operating mines and about 5469 million tonnes of reserves are untapped. However, of these untapped reserves, the