

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what are the reasons for short supply of coal to the power plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some State Governments like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat etc. have requested from time to time for additional supply of coal to the power stations located in their States.

(c) Coal India Limited (CIL) has been dispatching more than 90% of the targets fixed in the supply plan finalized as part of the Annual Plan by Ministry of Coal/Planning Commission. Despatches to Power Utilities have been 96% ,91% and 95% of targets in 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively and has improved to 98% in the current year upto June 2012. More despatches could not be made for the following reasons:-

- (i) transportation constraints in moving coal from pithead to sidings.
- (ii) intermittent law and order problems hampering coal movement, particularly in the States of Jharkhand and Odisha.
- (iii) seasonal adversities like heavy rains, heat wave conditions and fog situations hampering optimal level of coal transportation and movement.
- (iv) mismatch between indents and wagon supply and unloading constraints hampering wagon supply to the desired extent.
- (v) sub-optimal utilization of captive modes like Merry-Go-Round (MGR) by power stations.
- (vi) regulation of coal supplies by some power stations for their own reasons.

Supply of coal under fuel supply agreements

320. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that inordinate delay is taking place in supply of coal to the cement companies against the Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of FSAs entered into during the current financial year; and

- (d) the measures being taken by Government to alleviate the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Coal India Limited (CIL) has reported that there has been no excessive delay in supply of coal to the cement companies against the Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs). Supply of coal to cement companies is being made by the subsidiary companies of CIL as per the terms of FSA.

- (b) Does not arise, in view of reply given to part (a) of the question.

(c) During the financial year 2012-13, no new FSA for supply of coal to cement plants has been executed by the subsidiary companies of CIL.

(d) Due to negative coal balance in the subsidiary companies of CIL and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), applications seeking Letter of Assurance (LOA) for setting up new cement plants have not been taken up by the Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) for Cement, since November 2007. Only when the coal availability situation improves, the applications for cement plants can be taken up.

Allocation of coal blocks under auction system

321. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to allocate coal blocks to the private companies through auction system;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of representation received, so far, and the number of coal blocks allocated; and
- (d) the number of coal blocks identified for allocation through the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2010 was passed by the Parliament and has been notified in Gazette of India (Extraordinary) on 9th September, 2010. It provides for grant of reconnaissance permit, prospecting licence or mining lease in respect of an area containing coal and lignite through auction by competitive bidding, on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed. This, would however, not be applicable in the following cases:-

- ❖ where such area is considered for allocation to a Government company or corporation for mining or such other specified end use;