

re-compensate the farmer and a Diesel Subsidy Scheme approved to save the standing crops.

Bidding for coal blocks

*55. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has alleged that lack of competitive bidding for coal blocks resulted in gains for private companies and a loss of Rs. 1.86 lakh crore to the Central exchequer;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of companies which have been benefited; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government against the erring officials?

THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) The Performance Audit Report of Comptroller and Auditor General on Allocation of Coal Blocks and Augmentation of Coal Production has been received by the Government and the same has been forwarded as per Article 151(1) of the Constitution to Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha Secretariat for laying these in the Parliament.

Iron ore mining in Karnataka

*56. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of iron ore produced in the country during the last three years and how much of this was exported; and

(b) what measures Government is taking to reduce the export of iron ore and the outcome of such measures, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Details of total iron ore produced and exported in the last three years are given below:-

Year	Production (in millions tonnes)	Export (in millions tonnes)
2009-10	218.55	123.43
2010-11	207.99	97.90
2011-12	167.11	57.00

(Source IBM and TRU)

(b) Export of iron ore is guided by the EXIM Policy enunciated by the Ministry of Commerce from time to time. However, the Government has been imposing a custom duty on export of iron ore with an objective to conserve natural resources and raise revenue. As per the last revision on 30th December, 2011, the export duty on iron ore of all grades is 30% on advalorem basis. Export of iron ore from State of Karnataka has been affected due to Supreme Court order restricting iron ore production. As a result, exports of iron ore have shown a decline in the year 2010-11 and 2011-12.

Additional power supply to Punjab

*57. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Government has approached the Central Government to sanction 1000 megawatts of additional power from the Central pool to the State so that sufficient power could be provided to the agriculture sector; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A request for additional allocation of 500 MW power was received from the Chief Minister, Punjab vide letter dated 24th May, 2012 for the Paddy Season. A request for additional 1000 MW power for the month of July, August and September, 2012 especially for agriculture pump sets was received from Punjab State Power Corporation Limited.

Allocations from unallocated power of Central Generating Stations to states of Northern region including Punjab were revised with effect from 10th June, 2012 for meeting the requirement of power in the Kharif season keeping in view relative power supply position of States/UT of the region. The allocation to Punjab from unallocated power of Central Generating Stations of Northern Region was accordingly increased from 40-107 MW to 308-342 MW in different time slots of the day out of 1341 MW unallocated power available for distribution among the Northern States/UT namely Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand. At present Punjab has been allocated 343-390 MW power from unallocated power of (i) Central Generating Stations of Northern Region, (ii) Rajasthan Atomic Power Plant Unit-3 and 4 and (iii) Tala Hydro Power Station.

The quantum of unallocated power being limited and it being fully allocated at any point of time, the enhancement in allocation of any State/UT necessitates