

Meeting	Date
1st	03.07.2012
2nd	25.07.2012
3rd	08.08.2012
4th	03.09.2012
5th	6th, 7th, 8th Sept., 2012
6th	12.09.2012
7th	14.09.2012
8th	15.09.2012
9th	17.09.2012
10th	18.09.2012
11th	19.09.2012
12th	20.09.2012
13th	24.09.2012
14th	9th and 10th Oct., 2012
15th	05.11.2012
16th	06.11.2012
17th	20.11.2012

Cancellation of coal blocks

326. SHRI N. BALAGANGA:

SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL:

SHRI THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision to cancel the coal blocks allocated during the last eight years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether courts have expressed any opinion about cancellation of coal blocks, in the light of the observations made by the C&AG in its report; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The Government periodically monitors and reviews the development of allocated blocks as well as end use plants by the allocatee companies in the Review Meetings. Further, an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (Coal) with representatives from the Ministries of Power, Steel, Law & Justice and Departments of Economic Affairs and Industrial Policy and Promotion has been constituted on 21.06.2012 which *inter-alia* would undertake periodic review and monitor the progress of allocated coal/lignite blocks and make recommendations on action to be taken including de-allocation, if required. Based on the recommendation, the Government takes action from time to time as deemed fit.

(c) and (d) In a W.P. (Criminal) No. 120 of 2012, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has given order on 14.09.2012 directing Secretary, Ministry of Coal to submit counter-affidavit on the following aspects:

- (i) The details of guidelines framed by the Central Government for allocation of subject coal blocks.
- (ii) The process adopted for allocation of subject coal blocks.
- (iii) Whether the guidelines contain inbuilt mechanism to ensure that allocation does not lead to distribution of largesse unfairly in the hands of few private companies?
- (iv) Whether the guidelines strictly followed and objectives of the policy have been realized?
- (v) What were the reasons for not following the policy of competitive bidding adopted by the Government of India way back in 2004 for allocation of coal blocks?
- (vi.) What steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken against the allottees who have not adhered to the terms of allotment or breached the terms thereof?

Government will be filing an affidavit on the above issues.

Allocation of coal blocks and coal linkage

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