

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL) : (a) to (c) The Government has revised the royalty rates of coal and lignite *w.e.f.* 10.05.2012. As per the Gazette Notification issued, the rate of royalty on coal has been revised @ 14% *ad-valorem* on the price of coal, as reflected in the invoice, excluding taxes, levies and other charges and the rate of royalty on lignite has been revised @ 6% *ad-valorem* on transfer price of lignite as ratified by the Central Electricity Regulation Commission and if lignite sold to other consumers the royalty shall be 6% *ad-valorem* on the price of lignite as reflected in the invoice excluding taxes, levies and other charges. The revised royalty rates on coal and lignite are applicable for a minimum period of three years from 10.05.2012.

#### **Coal production**

632. SHRI TARUN VIJAY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the petrol/diesel price rise will impact the cost of coal production, coal distribution and coal end user; and
- (b) the number of projects in areas of coal mining by the Coal India Ltd. which have been held up due to delay in land acquisitions and environmental clearances?

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

(b) As reported by the Coal India Limited (CIL), as on date there are 148 ongoing projects under various stages of implementation. Out of these, 62 projects have issues relating to land acquisition, 13 projects have issues relating to Environmental clearance, 34 projects have issues of Forestry clearance and 18 projects have issues relating to both Environmental clearance & Forest clearance.

A total of 187 Forest clearance proposals, including the proposals for ongoing projects, are awaiting clearances at various levels and a total of 58 Environmental clearance proposals, including the environmental clearance proposals for ongoing projects, are awaiting clearances at various levels. However, Ministry of Coal regularly pursues the matter with Ministry of Environment and Forests for expediting clearances.

#### **Steps to enhance exploration of coal**

633. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has initiated any steps to enhance exploration for enlarging resource base for coal in the country;