

**Dispute over coal supply to NTPC**

3585. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any report about a dispute between Coal India Ltd. and NTPC for supply of coal to NTPC plants;
- (b) if so, whether the matter is settled or not;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether it is a fact that if this matter is not solved immediately, power production may be affected; and
- (e) if so, the details of action being taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) had requested for certain clarification on the clauses of Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA), which have already been provided by Coal India Limited. Now since most of the issues of differences have been resolved, NTPC has to come forward for signing of FSA.

NTPC has certain reservations against signing of FSAs for supply of coal of less than 3100 Kcal/kg. Since the indigenous availability of coal from CIL sources includes the entire production range falling within the grade notification of the Government, limiting supply to specific range, as being insisted upon by NTPC, is not feasible as this would reduce the availability of coal for NTPC. Since as on date 61 FSAs have been signed including those of State and Central Power Generating Companies, it would not be possible for CIL to go beyond the standard FSA model applicable for power plants to extend special treatment to NTPC.

(d) and (e) The coal supplies from Coal India Limited (CIL) sources to the Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) commissioned upto 31.03.2009 have been concluded through Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) route. The coal supplies in respect of TPPs commissioned after 31.03.2009 is made through short-term Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) as per the coal allocations made by Central Electricity Authority (CEA). During the year 2012-13, CIL has supplied about 132.84 million tonnes of coal though FSA/MoU route to the TPPs of NTPC as against the committed quantity of 125.98 million tonnes, which signifies a growth of 11% over the despatches in the previous year.

Therefore, NTPC has not been facing shortage in coal supply. The coal supply from CIL sources in April, 2013 (upto 23.04.2013) continues to be 100% of the committed quantity under FSA/MoU. Therefore, no situation has arisen which may affect power production at NTPC plants.

**Delay in issuance of ration cards**

3586. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great delay in issuing new ration cards to the applicants especially BPL families due to which they are deprived of getting their monthly rations in time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that, due to inordinate delay in distribution of ration cards, applicants are being put to many sufferings and are being deprived of getting their monthly ration items in time;

(d) the details thereof; and

(e) the measures being adopted by Government to solve this problem at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K. V. THOMAS): (a) to (e) There have been complaints about irregularities in the functioning of the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in some States/regions in the country. TPDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the State/Union Territory (UT) Governments wherein the operational responsibilities for implementation of TPDS within the State/UT rest with the concerned State/UT Governments. Therefore, as and when complaints are received by the Government from individuals and organizations as well as through press reports, these are referred to the State/UT Governments concerned for inquiry and appropriate action.

In terms of the PDS (Control) Order, 2001, the designated authority appointed by the State/UT Government shall issue a ration card within one month of the date of receipt of the application after necessary checks and verification.

Further, the Revised Model Citizens' Charter issued by this Department in July,