(e) In addition to the monitoring mechanism available at coal companies and CIL, coal supplies to Power Utility sector is monitored regularly by an inter-Ministerial Sub-Group comprising representatives of Ministry of Power, Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Railways constituted by the Infrastructure Review Committee of Cabinet Secretariat. This Sub-Group suggests various decisions to ensure uninterrupted coal supplies to power utilities and for meeting any contingent situations relating to Power sector including critical coal stock position.

Pollution of rivers by CIL

3. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsidiary companies of the Coal India Limited (CIL) including CCL & BCCL are polluting the rivers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any investigation in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by CIL and its subsidiary companies to check the pollution of rivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Mines and washeries of Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries take all necessary safeguards as per Environmental Management Plan (EMP) approved by Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) to prevent pollution to rivers, streams etc.

(c) and (d) Officials of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCB) periodically inspect the rivers and streams at the mine water discharge points. Officials of MoEF also inspect at different interval. The quality of rivers and streams are regularly monitored as per the monitoring norms laid down by the Pollution Control Board/MoEF and quarterly monitoring data are submitted to the statutory bodies.

(e) Subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd take various steps as per EIA/

EMP and as per conditions of Environmental Clearances granted and some of the measures are as follows:

(i) Pumped out water from mine is discharged into settling ponds before releasing into natural drainage channels after necessary treatment. Workshop effluents are treated in Workshop Effluent treatment Plant (Oil & Grease traps) and the domestic effluents from housing colonies are also treated in domestic effluent plants. Water from effluent treatment plants & oil and grease traps are re-cycled for industrial uses like dust suppression, washing of HEMMs, gardening etc. Discharge of all mine water confirms to the prescribed standards.

(ii) All washeries operate on closed water circuit with zero discharge.

(iii) Most of opencast dewatering pumps are installed on floats as a result the sumps are also working as settling tank.

Contract labourers in coal mines

4. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, in coal mines and other mining areas, contract labourers are working and if so, the details of such labourers in coal mining areas company-wise;

(b) when the engagement of contract workers is not permissible and how the contract labourers in different jobs are working in coal mines;

(c) whether coal companies would give them equal salary and regularise their services in respective posts; and

(d) whether badali worker system is still prevailing in coal mining areas and if so, how may badali workers are working in Mahanadi Coalfields Limited, Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) No contract worker is deployed directly by the Management of Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiary companies. However, certain jobs including hiring of HEMMs are done through outsourcing *i.e.* by the contractors who engage their own regular employees. The company-wise details of such employees is furnished below: