

[15 December, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

(a) whether it is a fact that flat tyres are threatening to defeat CIL's plans of executing the target of 343 million tonnes coal production;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a global tender for buying tyres floated by CIL evoked poor response; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by CIL in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) There is a shortage of OTR (off the road) tyres in Coal India Ltd. Such tyres are important inputs of production. Hence shortage of tyres may affect the production programme of Coal India Ltd.

(b) and (c) As reported by Coal India Ltd. global tenders floated by different subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. evoked poor response. A high level delegation was constituted in the Ministry of Coal to visit Japan, USA and Belarus of purchase of OTR tyres. The delegation has already visited Japan for this purpose and had discussions/deliberations with M/s Yokohoma, M/s Marubeni, M/s Bridgestone, M/s Mitsui & Co., and M/s Good Year. Discussions have also been held with a high level delegation from Belarus.

Abandoning of CCL coal mines in Jharkhand

2432. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of abandoned Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) mines in Jharkhand alongwith the reasons for abandoning them;

(b) whether CCL is aware that local persons in connivance with its officials/guards extract coal illegally from these mines dangerously;

(c) if so, the quantum of coal extracted illegally, every year;

(d) how many persons so far have been killed while extracting coal illegally from CCL's abandoned mines; and

(e) the action taken against the CCL for not protecting theft of coal from its abandoned mines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) The details of abandoned mines in CCL and the reasons for their closure are given in the enclosed statement (See below).

(b) and (c) Continuous raids/checks by security personnel of CCL as well as joint raids with District Police are carried out in order to prevent Hlegal extraction of coal. During the year 2005-06 (upto October '05), a total of 344 raids/checks have been carried out leading to a recovery of 337.5 tonnes of coal.

(d) As per information available with CCL, five persons have been killed since February 2004, while extracting coal illegally from non-working part of mines/abandoned mines.

(e) Police have registered cases against 2 and 4 officials of the company in Giridih and Rajrappa Areas, respectively.

Statement

Sl.N	Name of Mine	Type	Reason of Closure
1	2	3	4
1	Angwali	OC	Isolated patch, under HFL and adverse geo-mming condition
2	Sayal D	OC	Depletion of reserve
3	Piparadih	UG	Adverse geo-mining condition
4	Dhobidih	UG	Reserve depletion, Scientific Mining not
5	Karkatta	UG	Merged with Karkatta OC
6	Pure Dhori	OC	Scientific mining not possible due to adverse geo-mining conditions, amalgamated with Dhori Khas OC, converted to OCP
7	Chalkan	UG	Reserve depletion, adverse economy
8	Mas)	UG	Merged with Rajrappa OCP
9	Rauta	OC	Exhaustion, adverse geo-mining condition
10	Gidhania	OC	Isolated patch lacking infrastructure, to be amalgamated with future Ramgarh West OCP Block to work other mine
11	Dakra	UG	Merged with Dakra OC
12	Pakri Barwadih	UG	Lack of infrastructure
13	Semra	OC	Exhaustion, adverse geo-mining condition, thin steep seams
14	Sugja	OC	Depletion of reserve and remote location
15	Kuju	OC	Reserve depletion, adverse economy, merged with Kuju UG Project
16	Ara	UG	Reserve depletion, adverse economy, merged with Ara OCP
17	A. Karanpura	UG	Reserve depletion, adverse economy
18	K Karanpura	UG	Reserve depletion, adverse economy
19	Lapanga	UG	Reserve depletion, adverse economy
20	Hutar	UG	Reserve depletion, adverse economy
21	Pindra	OC	Depletion of Reserve

1	2	3	4
22	Giridih	UG	Reserve depletion, adverse economy
23	Tapin-S	OC	Adverse economy and land problem
24	Govindpur	OC	Adverse economy and land problem
25	Saunda—D	OC	Fire, adverse geo-mining condition, adverse economy, land problem
26	Tapin-S	UG	Reserve depleted
27	Hindegir	UG	Adverse economy, depletion of Reserve
28	Dhori Khas	OC	Depletion of economic reserve

OC—Opencast
 UG—Underground
 HFL—Highest Flood
 Level OCP—
 Opencast Project

Pilot project scheme in Karnataka

2433. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of posts offices functioning in Karnataka;
- (b) the number of new post offices proposed to be opened during 2005-06 in Karnataka;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to implement a pilot project at present being implemented in Maharashtra for the people to remit the money in post offices as well as avail credit; and
- (d) what are the other various people friendly measures taken up in Karnataka during 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) There are 9877 Post Offices functioning in Karnataka as on 31.3.05.

(b) No targets have been fixed for opening of Post Offices for the year 2005-06 in Karnataka. Post Offices are to be opened by relocation as per the department norms. The 10th Plan policy requires the Department to rationalize the postal network and explore more cost effective means of providing postal facilities and increasing access to them in order to reduce the dependence on budgetary support for this purpose.