

Coal washeries in Maharashtra

1877. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of coal washeries presently functional in Maharashtra;
- (b) whether Government proposes to increase the number of coal washeries in the State in the near future; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) Presently Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) is not operating any washery in Maharashtra. Earlier WCL envisaged setting up a non coking coal washery of 5 million tonnes per annum of raw coal throughput capacity but due to non availability of raw coal requiring washing the same was dropped. However, as per the requirement, setting up of new washeries in future is not ruled out. Further, as per the information furnished by Coal Controller's Organisation, there are two private washeries functioning in Maharashtra namely Wani and Pander Pauni owned by Kartikay Coal Washery and Aryan Coal Beneficiation Pvt. Ltd. respectively.

Show cause notice to coal companies

1878. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Inter-Ministerial Group, which reviewed recently the development of coal blocks by six companies, has recommended for issuance of show cause notice to them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has further initiated action for de-allocation of these coal blocks to these companies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (d) The Government periodically reviews and monitors the progress of development of captive coal blocks as well as associated

end use plants through the mechanism of 'Review Committee' earlier and 'Inter-Ministerial Group' (IMG)' now. IMG have held 24 meetings so far with the last meeting held on 7th and 8th February, 2013. Based on the review undertaken by the IMG in 23 meetings, 72 show cause notices have been issued to coal block allocatees. Further, based on the recommendations of IMG, 29 coal blocks have been de-allocated so far.

Closure of coal fields

1879. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are number of coal fields lying non-operational in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the number thereof; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken for revival/making operational these coal fields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

De-allocation of coal blocks

1880. DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has de-allocated/withdrawn a number of coal blocks during 2012-13 and the current year; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the action taken by Government against the violators?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The progress of development of coal blocks and associated end use plants is reviewed by an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) under the chairpersonship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal having members from Ministry/Department of Power, Steel, Industrial Policy and Promotion, Legal Affairs and Economic Affairs. Based on the recommendations of IMG following blocks have been de-allocated during the year 2012-13 and current year as there was no substantial progress in development of coal block or the progress in development of the coal blocks was found to be unsatisfactory.