

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The response of the Government of Andhra Pradesh is positive.

**Pact between MCL and SE Railways**

3205. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mahanadi Coal Fields Limited has entered into a pact with South Eastern Railways to implement a rail infrastructure project to facilitate transportation of large quantities of coal from Gopalpur-Monoharpur blocks under MCL in Orissa:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether MCL proposes to develop new mines in Gopalpur-Monoharpur blocks which have the potential to produce an estimated 21 million tonnes of coal annually during the Eleventh Plan period;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the project also involves the participation of East Coast Railways in the project; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) has proposed to construct Railway line connecting the coal blocks of Gopalpur Tract of IB Valley Coalfields for Sargedha in Sundergarh district to Jharsuguda Station of Orissa. MoU has been signed with South Eastern Railways to acquire the land for the said Railway line project. Advance Action Proposal (AAP) amounting Rs. 9.47 crores has been approved by Government, of India for this railway line project.

(c) and (d) MCL has proposed to develop two new projects namely Garganbahal OCP (10.00 MTY) and Siarnal OCP (8.00 MTY) in the Gopalpur-Monoharpur blocks during the Eleventh Plan.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of reply at (e) above.