

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS****Coal rationalisation**

1551. SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the global consulting firm KPMG has submitted the draft report on coal rationalisation to Government;

(b) whether coal rationalisation is aimed at linking power plants to the nearest mines which would bring financial benefit of ₹ 700 crore to this sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the move would also help in overcoming power shortage which are hampering power generation at many thermal power plants; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The objective of the exercise of rationalisation is to undertake a comprehensive review of existing sources of coal and consider the feasibility for rationalization of these sources with a view to optimize transportation cost and materialization under the given technical constraints. The end result is expected to be minimization of overall transportation cost and overall optimization of materialisation of coal at thermal power plants. However, figures of savings in transportation cost are dynamic and subject to acceptance and implementation of proposal in part or totality by all the participating stakeholders.

(d) and (e) Since the exercise of coal rationalisation is expected to optimize overall materialisation of coal at thermal power plants, one of the benefits would be increased power generation leading to reduction in power shortages.

**Shortage of coal to power plants**

1552. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any shortage in availability of coal for power generation;

(b) if so, the details of demand and supply of coal during the last two years and the current year;