

the Ministry of Coal on 27th August, 2009. Thereafter certain modifications were made and accordingly, further guidelines were issued in this regard on 08.09.2009, 11.01.2012, 25.04.2012 and 07.01.2013.

Mine Closure Plan is an integral part of Mining Plan and is mandatory under the provisions of MMDR Act and Mineral Concession Rules. The mine owners are responsible for implementing Mine Closure Plans as per the approved Mining Plans. The guidelines issued by Ministry of Coal in August, 2009 were mainly aimed at binding the mine owners financially to commit the completion of various activities of Mine Closure Plans through opening an Escrow Account with Coal Controller's Organisation (CCO).

Short term coal linkages

275. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is again planning to introduce the system of short term coal linkages in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a panel has also been made to look into the coal linkages to be provided; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has been constituted in the Ministry of Coal on 12.01.2015 to consider various models including auctioning of coal linkages/Letter of Assurances (LOAs) through competitive bidding as the selection process and to recommend the optimal structure that would meet the requirements of all the stakeholders.

Cancellation of biddings of coal blocks in Chhattisgarh

276. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has cancelled the four coal blocks whose bids were rejected include Gare IV/2, Gare Palma IV/3 and Tara coal blocks in Chhattisgarh in

which JSPL had emerged as the highest bidder and Gare Palma IV/1 mine for which Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO) had emerged as highest bidder;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for generating revenue from these coal blocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL) : (a) to (c) Government has not declared successful bidder in case of 4 coal mines namely Gare Palma IV/1, Gare Palma IV/2 & IV/3 and Tara as the final closing bid price was not found to be reflecting fair value. Pursuant to the order of Hon'ble High Court, Coal India Ltd. has been designated as custodian for these mines.

Delays in land acquisition by CIL

277. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal India Limited (CIL) is facing challenges of delays in land acquisition and inadequate rail links, etc. in achieving its output;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has prepared any roadmap for CIL to meet its annual growth targets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Land Acquisition & Forestry Clearance constraints: A large number of projects are facing challenges due to delay in land acquisition as well as forestry clearances. As on date, total of 53 projects of different subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL) are delayed due to land acquisition issues. The major impediments in land acquisition are delay in notification of land, delay in authentication of land records/determination of Record of Rights, delay in handing over of land, reluctance on part of land oustees to handing over land even after receiving compensation, non availability of Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) site to be provided by State Government and exorbitant demand of compensation from Project Affected Persons (PAPs) beyond company norms.

Further, constraints faced in obtaining Forest Clearance are due to delay in registration of applications, delay in obtaining NoC from the Collector for diversion of