

stated that Government shall appoint an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government of India to be the Commissioner of payments and given the Government promises of transparency and good governance in resource allocation, whether it proposes to set up an independent regulator for the coal sector;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the roadmap for the same; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL) : (a) to (c) A provision has been made in Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 to appoint an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary to the Government of India to be the Commissioner of Payments. Accordingly, the Central Government has appointed Coal Controller as Commissioner of Payments on 11.11.2014.

After detailed consultations with various stake holders as well as concerned Ministries/Departments, the Coal Regulatory Authority Bill, 2013 was approved by the competent authority on 27.06.2013 and the same was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 13.12.2013, to regulate and conserve resources in the coal sector, protect the interest of consumers and producers of coal and for matter connected therewith.

The Coal Regulatory Authority Bill, 2013 that was introduced in the Lok Sabha has lapsed with the dissolution of the 15th Lok Sabha on 18th May, 2014. The proposal for re-introducing the same in the Lok Sabha is under consideration for further inter-ministerial consultations.

Compensation and employment to displaced people by CIL

279. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the compensation and the arrangement for employment to the people displaced by the Coal India Limited(CIL) and its ancillaries are pending since long and if so, the details thereof, company-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by Government in this regard;
- (c) the reasons for some Public Sector Units in the country opposing coal block reallocation and mining;
- (d) whether Government has received representation from various associations opposing coal block reallocation and mining, citing previous experience of loss of farm land, no rehabilitation and pollution, etc.; and

- (e) if so, the details thereof State-wise and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL) : (a) No, Sir. However, in some cases, compensation and employment has not yet been provided due to various reasons such as non-submission of proper title documents, not accepting compensation as per provisions of Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957 or the rates notified by the State Governments, whichever is applicable, and demanding higher rates of compensation and more employment beyond the norms by affected persons. In some cases, families are reluctant to shift from the affected area and in some cases; ownership of land/houses are under dispute. In some cases, affected persons are not able to submit the proper documents in time which delays the process of giving compensation and providing employment. Employment and compensation claims are considered after submission of requisite documents.

(b) The land owners/applicants are persuaded by concerned subsidiaries to submit the requisite documents for processing their cases of employment. It is a continuous and regular process. Further, the land authentication issues pending with State Government are constantly pursued.

(c) Government has not received any representation from Public Sector Units in the country opposing coal blocks reallocation and mining in terms of Coal Mines (Special Provision) Act, 2015, citing previous experience of loss of farm land, lack of rehabilitation and pollution.

(d) and (e) Trade unions had initially opposed the Coal Block reallocation and entry of Private Companies in commercial coal mining. The Government had discussed with the Trade Unions and satisfied them that the main purpose of reallocation of coal blocks was to protect the interest of workers of coal mines in country whether in public sector or private sector, and ensure better production in a transparent and equitable manner.

Drinking water and sanitation in A.P. and Telangana

280. SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of villages and rural areas of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana without drinking water facilities, district-wise;