

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) and (b) Widening of the existing NH-2 (GT-Road) has been taken up by six laning it from Barwada to Panagarh *via* Nirsa of Dhanbad district. This road passes through deposits of coal however there is no existence of fire in areas contiguous to the National Highway at Nirsa area of Eastern Coalfield Limited.

(c) Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) was not against the proposed National Highway passing through rich coal bearing areas in and around Nirsa. However, it has advised NHAI to study the long term stability issues.

Reduction of distance for supply of coal

1507. Dr. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to reduce the distance for supplying coals from pitheads to thermal power stations from existing 750 km. to 500 km.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) *Vide* Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 2014, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change had notified through Gazette Notification dated 02.01.2014 that coal based thermal power plants including captive power plants of capacity 100 MW and above which are not using any of (i) CFBC (Circulating Fluidized Bed Combustion), (ii) AFBC (Atmospheric Fluidized Bed Combustion), (iii) PFBC (Pressurized Fluidized Bed Combustion) or (iv) IGCC (Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle) technologies for generating power, and located in (a) critically polluted area, (b) ecologically sensitive area, (c) urban area, and (d) located beyond 1000 kms. from pithead coal source, shall be supplied with and shall use coal with ash content not exceeding 34 per cent on quarterly average basis.

The notification also modified the distance of Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) from coal source specified in (d) as 750 kms. *w.e.f.* 01.01.2015 and as 500 kms. *w.e.f.* 05.06.2016, for supply and use of coal with ash content not exceeding 34 per cent on quarterly average basis.

Construction of toilets under SBM-G

†1508. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposals/requests from the State

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Governments to allocate ₹ 369.48 crore for construction of 80,000 toilets under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin (SBM-G) as per the new funding ratio of 60:40; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to allocate funds in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Providing piped drinking water to all villages

†1509. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses in which drinking water is supplied through pipelines by Government and the percentage of people and houses covered under it, State-wise;

(b) the total amount allocated/released and spent under the said scheme during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and the amount likely to be spent, State-wise, to achieve the target of providing drinking water through pipelines for the purpose; and

(c) by when the drinking water is likely to be provided to the households in all villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION (SHRI RAMESH CHANDAPPA JIGAJINAGI) : (a) State-wise details of number of houses in which drinking water is supplied through pipelines by Government alongwith the percentage of people and houses covered are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) This Ministry supplements the efforts of the State for providing safe drinking water for its rural population with financial and technical assistance under the centrally sponsored National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP). States are vested with power to select, design, approve, execute and monitor drinking water supply facilities. This Ministry releases the funds to States under NRDWP but not separately for Piped Water Supply schemes. The total funds allocated/released and utilized by the States under NRDWP during the last three years and the current year are given in the Statement-II (*See below*). No assessment is made about the total funds likely to be incurred to achieve the target to provide piped drinking water for this purpose.

(c) The Ministry has prepared a Strategic Plan to cover 80% of rural households to have piped water supply with a household connection by the year 2022.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.