

(b) to (e) National Green Tribunal (NGT) in its order dated 17.04.2014, directed the Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya and the Director General of Police, State of Meghalaya to ensure that rat-hole mining/illegal mining in Meghalaya is stopped forthwith and no illegal transport of coal takes place.

Government of Meghalaya, Mining and Geology Department had forwarded a copy of draft Mining Guidelines for regulating coal mining activities in Meghalaya as ordered by NGT. However, the guidelines submitted by the Government of Meghalaya were not in conformity with the existing statutory provisions of MMDR Act, 1957. Hence the Government of Meghalaya was asked to reframe the guidelines. Government of Meghalaya has not submitted modified guidelines.

Rehabilitation of farmers affected by Singareni Collieries

4. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that farmers affected by Singareni Collieries OCP-4 project have not been rehabilitated properly; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to help the victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Medapalli Opencast Mine in Ramagundem-I Area of Karimnagar District which is locally known as OCP-4 is in operation with remaining life of 4 to 5 years only. No such issue of rehabilitation is involved in this mine.

Transportation of coal

5. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to ship the coal through coasts;

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

(c) whether shipping of coal through coast is considered economic than through railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) As part of the National Perspective Plan, April 2016, coastal shipping potential of 140 MMTPA of coal has been identified. The identified potential will be from despatch of coal from the mines of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited in Odisha to the coastal power plants in Southern and Western Maritime States using the rail-sea-rail route.