

(d) and (e) The allocation of 204 cancelled coal mines are made under the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015, Rules made thereunder as well as the terms and conditions prescribed in the Tender/Allotment document.

#### **Price of coking coal**

805. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited (CIL) raised the price of coking coal without any discussion with its key customer SAIL;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that SAIL did not turn up for deliberations despite repeated pleas by CIL;

(d) whether CIL is considering to revise the price to accommodate the request of various steel manufacturers, including SAIL; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):  
(a) to (e) The Coal India Limited (CIL) Board during its 334th Board Meeting delegated the power of fixation of price of coking coal to the Board of subsidiary coal companies. Accordingly, Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) Board during 330th Board Meeting revised the washed coal price on the basis of import parity. Similarly, Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) also revised the prices of coking coal for non-regulated sector from January, 2017 and for regulated sector from March, 2017.

Fixation of prices of products remain a key responsibility of a company. There was no formal discussion with any customer including SAIL before notification of coking coal prices. As per the price notifications issued by BCCL and CCL, the price of washed coking coal is based on quarterly average Australian Coking Coal Price and the same is to be revised on quarterly basis.

#### **Sale of coal as per consumer requirement**

806. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Limited plans to set up a joint venture in order to sell blended coal as per consumer requirement;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to cut down the logistics cost component in landed prices of coal?

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

(a) to (b) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

(c) An Inter-Ministerial Task Force (IMTF) was constituted to undertake a comprehensive review of existing sources of coal and consider the feasibility for rationalisation of these sources with a view to optimize the transportation cost and materialisation under the given constraints. The IMTF recommended rationalisation of existing sources on a case to case basis for 19 Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) of public sector units keeping in view the availability of coal at each coalfield, distance of TPPs from linked sources and constraints of Railway transportation etc. The recommendation of IMTF has been implemented by CIL/SCCL leading to potential annual savings of about ₹ 1,471 crore annually. In addition to the above, Coal India Limited has also rationalised sources (coal company-wise) based on the request of consumers from public sector units with a view to optimise the transportation cost and materialisation taking into account coal availability and logistics leading to annual potential savings of ₹ 1,883 crore approximately.

**Strike by Singareni coal workers against merger of Coal  
Workmen PF with EPF**

807. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the strike by Singareni coal workers who protested against the merger of Coal Workmen Provident Fund with Employees Provident Fund, as it would reduce the accrued amount, if both are merged;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to resolve these problems and protect monetary loss?

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has not taken any decision to merge Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation with Employees' Provident Fund Organisation.