

import coal from the source of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty.

Reclamation of abandoned coalfields

937. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and other agencies have any responsibility to restore abandoned or decommissioned coalfields;

(b) if not, action plan drawn by Government for technical and biological reclamation of such coalfields;

(c) whether Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) commissioned by CIL, has submitted its report on indexing of environmental performance of coalfields; and

(d) whether any assessment of the reclaimed coalfields has been done from economic angle?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) In order to ensure restoration of abandoned or decommissioned coal mines, Ministry of Coal has issued Mine Closure Guidelines in August 2009 and the same is implemented by all Projects of Coal India limited and all other coal companies.

(b) Not applicable, in view of the reply (a) above.

(c) Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) has submitted draft Methodology for Index Rating on environmental performance of CIL mines.

(d) No assessment of the reclaimed coalfields has been done from economic point of view so far.

Growth in rake loading by CIL

938. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that backed by improved rake loading, Coal India Limited's (CIL's) dispatches to the power sector climbed to touch 488 million tonnes as against 454 million tonnes supplied in the fiscal year 2017-18 which is a growth of 7.45 per cent;

(b) whether the percentage growth in rake loading for the power sector is higher than the average rake loading growth of 5.6 per cent during the fiscal year 2018-19 as Coal India on an average loaded 280.7 rakes per day as against 265.8 rakes in the fiscal year 2016-17; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) During the fiscal 2018-19, Coal India Limited (CIL) supplied a quantity of 491.25 Million Tonnes (MT) of coal to the