GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF POWER LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2830 ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024

NTPC JOBS IN SOLAPUR

2830 MS. PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken/proposes to take steps to ensure NTPC Solapur honors its commitment to provide permanent jobs to one person per project-affected family as per the 2014 and 2016 agreements;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for delay in fulfilling their commitments;
- (c) the manner in which the Ministry justified NTPC's practice of hiring nonproject-affected individuals for permanent positions while offering monetary compensation to project-affected families instead of employment;
- (d) the measures implemented/proposed to be implemented by the Government to ensure project-affected families receive the promised job opportunities and also the manner in which the Ministry would address the grievances of skilled artisans who prefer permanent employment over monetary compensation; and
- (e) the details of the current status of employment provided to project-affected families in Solapur NTPC and the mechanisms adopted/used to ensure transparency and accountability in the implementation of employment policies for project-affected families?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(a) & (b): An agreement was signed between the State Rehabilitation Authority (SRA) and NTPC in the year 2016 for the Rehabilitation and Resettlement provisions for NTPC Solapur. As per clause - 8 of the agreement between NTPC and SRA, "In case there are no posts available in the project or the project affected person (PAP) himself does not opt for employment or if the PAP is found ineligible for any of the posts, then in lieu of employment, NTPC will pay lump sum one time compensation of Rs. 5.00 Lakh (Rupees five lakh only) to such Project Affected Family."

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Considering the state-of-the-art technology of the plant, the possibility of direct employment of workmen in NTPC is not envisaged. Accordingly, NTPC Ltd. deposited an amount of Rs. 20 Crores to the State Administration for disbursement of the same in lieu of employment.

(c) to (e): NTPC Ltd., which is a "Maharatna" Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power, conducts recruitment through an open and transparent centralized process and no recruitments for direct employment with NTPC are being done at the individual plant level. However, contractual jobs as per requirement and availability, are provided to project-affected families through contract agencies at the project level.

The skilled artisans/individuals who are from project-affected families get suitable job opportunities in different contracts being operated by different agencies. Approximately 251 project-affected persons are currently engaged through contract agencies. In addition, NTPC provides opportunities to PAFs in activities like hiring of vehicles through PAFs, Petty contract works through PAF societies and shop allotment to PAFs in NTPC township.
