

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2732  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2001  
PROCUREMENT OF COAL BY NTPC, SIPAT  
CHARAN DAS MAHANT

**Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the condition for using coal with less than 0.24 percent sulphur content only is permitted in Sipat (Chhattisgarh) based NTPC unit; and

(b) if so, the source from which N.T.P.C. procure this coal?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER ( SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA )

(a) & (b) : There is no emission limit for SO<sub>2</sub> from thermal power projects in India. However, tall stacks as per regulatory norms are required to be provided by the thermal utilities. Accordingly, stack height of 275 meters has been envisaged for Sipat Super Thermal Power Project (STPP) as per regulatory norms.

The Ministry of Coal had indicated in march, 1996 that coal supply to Sipat STPP can be made from Korba coalfields subject to inter-alia confirmation by Standing Linkage Committee (SLC) (Long Term). Which decided in October, 1996 to provide coal linkage to Sipat STPP. However, specific mine block for feeding coal to Sipat STPP was not identified at that point of time. In the absence of specific mine block the coal parameters (with 0.24% sulphur) available from Korba STPS which also receives coal from Korba coalfields were assumed for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) purpose.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MOE&F) while approving this project from environmental angle, stipulated a condition that the coal to be used should be with sulphur content not exceeding 0.24%.

Subsequently, in June, 1999 the South-Eastern Coalfields Limited furnished coal characteristics of Dipka expansion project, the linked source of Sipat STPP. The sulphur content in coal from Dipka expansion project would range from 0.4% to 0.6%.

NTPC have approached MOE&F for necessary amendments in the stipulation of environmental clearance based on revised impact on air quality furnished by them (which are within the ambient air quality standards prescribed by the regulatory agencies) when firing coal with sulphur content varying between 0.4% to 0.6%.