

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:167
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2001
TRANSPORTATION OF COAL BY WCL
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a ban on engagement of private contractors, transporters and labour for production and transportation of coal in the Coal Industry;
- (b) if so, whether the Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) has engaged private contractors and labour for the purpose, despite a ban thereon;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, area-wise during the last three years along with the reasons therefore;
- (d) the amount paid to the private labour and transporters by the WCL in each area during the said period; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a)&(b): Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 prohibits engagement of contract Labour for coal raising and over burden removal.

There is no prohibition on engagement of contract labour for coal transportation as such. As permissible under the Law, WCL is hiring equipment (pay loaders and tippers) from private parties for transportation of coal to sidings as well as pit heads. WCL is also hiring equipment like excavators, tippers, drills, dozers, etc. from private agencies for OB removal.

(c),(d)&(e): Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.