

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:537
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
STRIKE IN COAL SECTOR
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

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

- (a) whether there were any labour strikes in coal sector in the country during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, coal mine-wise;
- (c) the reasons for such agitations and strikes;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to solve the disputed issues;
- (e) whether there is any machinery to anticipate potential issues of dispute; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof? A N S W E R

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES (SHRI RAVISHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The details of Strikes/Bandhs in the coal mines of subsidiaries of Coal India Limited during the last three years is given below :-

NAME OF THE COMPANY	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002 (Up-to February, '02)
Eastern Coalfields Ltd	07	08	01
Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.,	05	04	06
Central Coalfields Ltd.	06	03	02
Western Coalfields Ltd.	03	06	02
South Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	13	06	03
Northern Coalfields Ltd.	03	04	01
Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd.	01	02	02
North Eastern Coalfields Ltd.	00	00	01
Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd.	01	03	01
TOTAL	39	36	19

(c) During the last few years, the Central Trade Unions operating in the Coal industry have called strikes in protest against privatisation of coal mines and proposed Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000, seeking restoration of Customs Duty on imported coal to the level of 1989-90, re-organisation of Coal industry to make single unified company with full autonomy and to press demands such as wage revision, allowances and payment of arrears of wage revision .

(d) The National Coal Wage Agreement - V has been finalised and implemented. Part arrears of wages have been paid and discussions are on for payment of the balance amount. On all other policy matters, discussions have been held with the Central Trade

Unions at different levels including the Group of Ministers.

(e) & (f): Joint Bi-partite fora of Central Trade Unions and Management has been functioning in CoalIndia Limited at different levels. All such matters are discussed in this fora.