

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1143
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2003
PRODUCTION OF COAL BY OUTSOURCING
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the production of coal by outsourcing has been started and is proposed to be started in different coal companies like Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and Central Coalfields Ltd.;
- (b) if so, the facts and details thereof;
- (c) whether outsourcing is permitted in the Coal Mines Nationalisation Act;
- (d) if so, the fact thereof;
- (e) whether the Hon`ble Supreme Court's judgement on disinvestments of oil PSU s also permits outsourcing in coal industry; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL)

(a) & (b): Outsourcing by hiring of equipment has been started for production in coal in the following places in ECL, BCCL and CCL

ECL : Four small opencast patches viz. Shankarpur OC Patch, Bilpahari OC Patch, Patmohona OC Patch and Khoirabad OC Patch.

BCCL: Three patches viz Murlidih, Kalyanchak and Khas Kusunda.

CCL : Ashok OCP and KDH OCP by surface miners.

Hiring of equipment has been resorted to under the following conditions:

1. Patch deposits which have small reserve and can not be worked economically with high overhead cost.
2. Patch deposits where seasonal mining can only be done.
3. Non-availability of sufficient capacity due to fund crunch and
4. To curb illegal mining and to protect from the hazards of fire and for other safety related problems.

(c) & (d): Hiring of equipment is not prohibited under the Coal Mines Nationalisation Act.

(e) & (f): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.