

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3134
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2006
IRREGULARITIES IN MARKETING OF COAL
Ansari Shri Furkan;Mahato Shri Sunil Kumar

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints against the Central Coalfields Limited with regard to the irregularities and bungling in marketing of coal to the industrial units/power plants;
- (b) if so, the details of complaints received in this regard alongwith the number of cases registered/referred to the Vigilance Department/Central Bureau of Investigation during the last three years and the number of cases investigated by these agencies;
- (c) the details of irregularities detected in each of the last three years and the amount of bungling involved therein;
- (d) the action taken against the officers found guilty; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to curb the corruption and inefficiency ailing the coal sector?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR.DASARI NARAYAN RAO):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Two complaints have been received against officials of Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL) concerning irregularities in marketing of coal to the industrial units/ power plants. The first complaint relates to irregularities on account of less realization of price on coal dispatched from Karo OCP to Tenughat Thermal Power Station. This complaint was investigated and based on findings of Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO), CCL, major penalty proceedings have been initiated against the erring officials for less realization on supply of coal. The other complaint pertains to difference in sale price sold through road mode vis-a-vis rail mode under e-marketing. This complaint was also investigated. During preliminary scrutiny conducted by CVO, CCL, No irregularity has been substantiated in respect of this complaint.

(e) Due attention is paid to streamline the procedures and practices prevailing in the Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries so as to make their working more transparent and systematic thus minimizing chances of corruption. The Government and CIL are taking the following steps to check corruption:

- (i) Identification of sensitive posts/departments.
- (ii) Rotational transfer of officers/employees working in sensitive posts.
- (iii) Transfer of officers figuring in the list of officers of doubtful integrity.
- (iv) Periodical inspections, both regular and surprise, in sensitive areas.
- (v) Post-scrutiny of file, etc.
- (vi) Scrutiny of property returns.
- (vii) Annual verification of the coal stock position.
- (viii) Joint Action by coal companies in liaison with the local police administration, CISF, Railway police to check the illegal mining, theft and pilferage of coal.