

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:933  
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2010  
ACQUISITION OF COAL MINES BY NTPC  
Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

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

- (a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) proposes to acquire coal mines in Australia;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total investment involved therein;
- (d) whether the NTPC has signed any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the purpose; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER ( SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI )

- (a) : NTPC is in the process of evaluating opportunities with the objective of acquiring stakes in coal mines in Australia.
- (b) : Coal available from the domestic sources is not sufficient to cater to requirement of coal for power plants of NTPC. There has been loss of generation at the power stations of Farakka, Kahalgaon and Talcher Kaniha on account of shortage of coal. NTPC is importing coal from outside the country to bridge the increasing gap between its requirement and receipt of coal from domestic sources. Hence, NTPC is looking for acquisition of coal mines in foreign lands to ensure supply of requisite quantum of coal for its power plants.
- (c) : Investment will depend on size of a particular mine and equity stake available for NTPC.
- (d) & (e) : NTPC has not signed any Memorandum of Understanding in this regard.