

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:553
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2010
SALE OF COAL
Badal Harsimrat Kaur

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allow the developers of captive coal mines to sell coal for commercial purposes for power of steel plants;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has decided to open up commercial coal mining to the private sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise in the view of reply given at (a) above.

(c) & (d): The Central Government decided to amend the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Act, 1973 to allow Indian companies both in the public and private sectors to mine coal in the country without the existing restriction of captive mining. Accordingly a Bill, namely the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 2000, was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 24.04.2000. The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Industry on 27.04.2000 and then to the Standing Committee on Energy on 22.11.2000 for examination and report. Due to stiff resistance from the trade unions it was decided that the Bill would be introduced in the Parliament only after reaching a consensus. A Group of Ministers (GoM) has been constituted to look into this matter for making appropriate recommendations.