

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3377  
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2011  
MAHATMA GANDHI S HOUSE IN JOHANNESBURG .  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to purchase the house publicized as residence of Mahatma Gandhi in Johannesburg in South Africa and make it a monument;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the officers and employees of Coal India Limited have offered their day's salary for the above purpose; and
- (d) If so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

- (a): A proposal has been received from the Coal India Ltd. (CIL) to purchase the said House "The Kraal" in the name of employees of CIL. After purchase, the house is proposed to be converted into a museum and to handover the upkeep of the monument to Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- (b): The proposal envisages the said purchase to be made from contribution made by the employees of CIL and its subsidiaries, through formation of a trust. The expenditure for subsequent upkeep and maintenance of the said house is proposed to be borne by CIL. Ministry of Coal has taken up the matter with the ASI and the Ministry of Culture in this regard.
- (c) & (d): The issue was taken up by the CIL management with the employees' unions and majority of them agreed to extend their financial support for the same.