

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:148
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2011
COAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY
Rani Killi Krupa;Singh Shri Radhey Mohan

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Coal Regulatory Authority in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the views of the concerned Ministries/Departments in the matter have since been obtained;
- (d) if so, the broad details thereof and the time by which the Authority is likely to be set up; and
- (e) the benefits likely to accrue to the coal producing States, consumers and other stakeholders from the setting up of the said Authority?

Answer

MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

- (a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS MENTIONED IN LOK SABHA STARRRED QUESTION NO.148 FOR ANSWER ON 10.8.2011 ASKED BY SHRI RADHE MOHAN SINGH AND DR. KRUPARANI KILLI REGARDING COAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. The Coal Regulatory Authority is proposed to be set up to regulate and conserve resources in the coal sector; protect the interests of consumers and producers of coal and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. The proposed Regulator is expected to create a more level playing field for all the players in the coal sector and to facilitate faster resolution of issues relating to economic pricing of coal, bench marking of standards of performance, etc.

(c) & (d) : Yes Sir, The comments of concerned Ministries/Departments have been received. However, it was noticed that some major changes/suggestions have been made by various Ministries/Departments. At present, suitable incorporation of these changes/suggestions is being examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law. Once finalized the draft Bill would be submitted for the approval of the competent authority. However, it may not be possible to indicate the exact time frame by which the proposed Authority is likely to be set up.

(e) : As stated above, the likely benefits of the Coal Regulatory Authority would be more optimal development of coal resources of the country, which would ensure that the Indian coal companies raise their level of competence to be at par with international competitors. As it would also deal with the issues like mining authorization, production and supply of coal, specify & determine the grades/quality of coal, price of coal, and adjudicate disputes amongst producers and consumers, it is expected to protect the interests of consumers and producers of coal and would effectively deal with the matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The proposed Coal Regulatory Authority would facilitate more standardized operational norms, establishment of bench marks in safety standards and performance, productivity etc through adoption of best mining practices, which would entail effective resolution of problems confronted by all the stakeholders including coal producing States and coal miners.