GOVERNMENT OF INDIA COAL LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4534
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR COAL MINING
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is facing problems/difficulties in acquisition of land for coal mining projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether mining activities in the land, acquired in different parts of the country, has been undertaken according to the rules/mining schemes framed by the Government;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): The Government is facing problems in acquisition of land because of non-availability of complete land records with State Governments, delay in getting statutory clearances both from Central and State Governments, delay in actual possession of land from land owners, etc.
- (c): The following action is being taken to overcome problems in acquisition of land:-
- (i) Vigorous follow up action with land acquisition officials of State Governments to expedite acquisition proceedings.
- (ii) Regular meetings with State Authorities viz. Land Revenue Commissioner, Land Revenue Secretary, Chief Secretary and Committees constituted by respective State Governments are held to sort out acute problems.
- (iii) Since April, 1989 sanction upto Rs.20 crores has been accorded for projects costing above Rs.50 crores, for taking advance action in connection with problems relating to land acquisition and forestry & environment clearances.
- (iv) Regular meetings and discussions are held with villagers and land losers for selection of rehabilitation site and also to persuade them to shift to the rehabilitation site.
- (v) Forest Officials are contacted on regular basis at district & tehsil levels, to sort out problems relating to forestry clearances.
- (vi) The Regional Offices/New Delhi office of Ministry of Environment & Forests are regularly contacted for expediting clearance of the environmental and forestry proposals.
- (d) to (f): Yes, Sir. Mining activities of any mining project are undertaken as per the Project Report (PR) approved by the company boards. All activities in the PR such as acquisition, possession & use of land, mine development, infrastructure development, coal evacuation system, procurement of equipment etc. are planned & phased year wise. Approval to start coal mining activities in a coal mining project is accorded only after all the statutory clearances, such as forestry clearances, environmental clearances, Director General of Mines Safety (DGMS) approvals etc., are obtained. This system is uniformly followed in all the subsidiaries of Coal India Limited (CIL).