

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2988
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2012
CHINAKURI POWER STATION
Chowdhury Shri Bansagopal;Haque Shri Sk. Saidul

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether lease of Chinakuri Power Station (CPS) has not been renewed by the Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of persons working therein;
- (d) the present status of the power station; and
- (e) the steps taken by ECL to open the power station?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Chinakuri Power Plant (CPS) was given on lease to M/s. Dishergarh Power Supply Company (DPSC) Ltd. by Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL), for a period of twenty years from 01.04.1991 up to 31.03.2011. At the time when the plant was leased to DPSC Ltd. for O&M activities, it was a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) as well as a distribution licensee. DPSC Ltd. became a private concern in the year 2009-10. The lease period was extended for one year i.e. up to 31.03.2012 with the approval of ECL Board and tender was invited simultaneously for fresh leasing. ECL invited tender only after expiry of the original lease period, since it could not continue the leasing on nomination basis.

(c) : DPSC Ltd. has also got a power plant (Dishergarh Power Plant) owned by them, adjacent to the said CPS and personnel were being engaged for Operation & Monitoring (O&M) of both the Power Plants including that of their distribution network. DPSC Ltd. at different fora and occasions has provided varying figures of persons working therein. As such, the exact number of persons working in CPS is not known to ECL.

(d): DPSC Ltd. stopped generation from CPS since October 2011 whereas it was on lease up to March 2012, as the company was not ready to abide by the guidelines of New Coal Distribution Policy 2007 and did not deposit the requisite Bank Guarantee for receiving coal. As such, as on date, the plant is not in operation nor is handed over to ECL by DPSC Ltd.

(e): The tender invited for leasing out CPS was not responsive, whereafter the date of submission of the tender was extended up to 28.05.2012. The same was again non- responsive. Therefore, the tender document was referred to Central Mine Planning and Development Institute (CMPDIL) for scrutiny and revision to attract participation. In the meantime, the matter has been taken up by ECL with the State Government of West Bengal and M/s. Durgapur Projects Limited (DPL) as well for off-loading O & M activities of CPS to M/s DPL, a West Bengal State PSU.