

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1742  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2012  
APPROVAL TO THERMAL PLANT  
Namdhari Shri Inder Singh

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

- (a) whether the super thermal plant of 2000 MW at Piparwar in the Chatra district of Jharkhand is awaiting the Ministry's nod for more than a decade;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the approval to it?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): The project site location of North Karanpura Super Thermal Power Project (NKPSTPP) at Tandwa (near Piparwar) Block, Chatra District of Jharkhand was finalised in July, 2003 by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). Ministry of Coal (MoC) raised the matter of site location on the issue of coal bearing area as the proposed project site, water reservoir and power corridors were blocking about 6 billion tonnes of coal reserves. Hence, Ministry of Coal (MoC) requested Ministry of Power (MoP) to relocate the site.

After several meetings took place in Ministry of Power and Ministry of Coal to resolve the issues, Ministry of Coal had taken the matter to Cabinet Secretariat and circulated a note for consideration of Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure (CCI) to direct Ministry of Power to relocate the proposed plant at an alternative non-coal bearing area as no significant progress has taken place in the construction of the project. Cabinet Secretariat referred the matter for consideration of a Group of Ministers (GoM) constituted for considering Environmental and Developmental issues relating to coal mining and other developmental projects. The GoM on the basis of the recommendation of the committee constituted by them to look in to the issue of NKPSTPP in its meeting held on 01.03.2012 has recommended that plant will be set up at the proposed site with certain safeguards. However, MoC was not in agreement with the decision of GoM and MoC has again taken up the issue for consideration of Cabinet Committee on Infrastructure (CCI).