

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:261
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013
ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE TO POWER PROJECTS
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of power projects that which have signed fuel supply agreements with Coal India Limited and have been allotted captive coal blocks but are still awaiting land acquisition and environmental clearance;
- (b) whether the EGoM has recently cancelled some captive coal blocks allotted to power projects;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the impact thereof; and
- (d) the alternative arrangements being made by the Government to ensure fuel supply to meet power requirements of the country?

Answer

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

(a) Out of 176 coal blocks which stand allocated, 77 blocks are allocated to power sector including for the Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPPs). 16 coal blocks have come into production. The remaining coal blocks are in different stages of obtaining clearances etc. As reported by the Coal Controller, the land acquisition and Environmental Clearances in respect of 42 coal blocks is pending.

(b) & (c): In pursuance of the announcement of the Hon'ble Finance Minister in the budget speech for the year 2012-13, an Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) headed by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal has been constituted on 21.06.2012 to undertake periodic review of the development of coal/lignite blocks allotted by the Government. The IMG took up for review of the 66 cases – 58 cases where the show cause notices were issued consequent to the Review / recommendations by the Review Committee held on 11th & 12th January, 2012 and 08 cases where a decision was taken, on the basis of earlier reviews, to deduct BG and were pending were also taken up.

The IMG recommended de-allocation in respect of 24 coal blocks. The recommendations have been accepted by the Government except incase of Urma Paharitola coal block. De-allocation letters in respect of 22 coal blocks have been issued and in one block, namely Brahmadiha, the same would be done as per the order of the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand in W.P. 6658 of 2012. The details of the above blocks is as per Annexure.

(d): The Government has decided to constitute an Inter-Ministerial Committee to consider, inter-alia, on the issues relating to the fuel requirements of the power plants.