

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3549

ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013

REGULATOR FOR COAL SECTOR

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan; Yadav Shri Dharmendra; Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

- (a): whether there is any proposal to establish a regulatory authority for the coal sector;
- (b): if so, the details thereof along with the functions and powers proposed to be assigned to it;
- (c): whether the Government has received any objections from other Ministries and stakeholders in this regard; and
- (d): if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): A proposal for setting up of an Independent Regulatory Authority for coal sector was submitted for consideration of the Cabinet. The proposal was considered by the Cabinet in its meeting held on 10.5.2012 and was referred to a Group of Ministers (GoM) for making recommendations. The GoM had held two meetings on 25.7.2012 and 21.01.2013 so far, to consider the proposal.

The proposed functions of the authority inter-alia include to specify methods of testing for declaration of grades; monitor & enforce mine closure plans; ensure adherence of approved mining plans; specify principles and methodologies for price determination; specify procedures for automatic coal sampling & weighing; advise the Central Government in formulation of policies; promotion of competition; efficiency; investment in coal industry; etc.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Labour etc. have observed that the powers and functions of the proposed authority shall be in addition to and not in derogation of certain specified laws. These observations will be taken into consideration while finalising the proposal.