

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3511
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2013
RAILWAY LINE FOR COAL TRANSPORTATION
Namdhari Shri Inder Singh

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) incurs a large expenditure in transporting coal by road due to the lack of a small length of rail track between Piparwar colliery and Macluskiganj Railway Station in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is true that the project to construct a rail track between Piparwar colliery to Macluskiganj Railway Station in Jharkhand has not been completed for the last two decades and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to construct a railway line in this section on priority basis?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Delay in completion of the construction of envisaged railway siding at Piparwar project due to left over work in small patches by the erstwhile contractor, M/s Indian Railway Construction Company Limited (IRCONL), coal from the project has to be transported by road to other two distant railway sidings of Piparwar Area viz. Bachra and Regulating Coal Mines (RCM) sidings.

(c): The proposed railway siding at Piparwar is at a distance of about 30 Kms from the take off point of Macluskiganj Railway Station of East Central Railway up to the loading point of Piparwar Coal Handling Plant (CHP)/ Coal Preparation Plant (CPP).

The work was initially awarded by Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) to M/s IRCON Ltd, the construction arm of Indian Railways, on turnkey basis in two phases in 1990 & 1995 respectively. M/s IRCON Ltd left the work in July 2002 under Force Majeure Clause due to extremist activities & frequent law & order disturbances.

(d): The work had subsequently been awarded by CCL to M/s Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited (RITESL), a subsidiary of the Indian Railways, on deposit term basis in November 2007. It is now expected that the work would be completed by the end of 2013. In order to ensure that no further time is lost, the matter is regularly being followed up with the State administration and the Ministry of Railways.