

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:454
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2013
REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR COAL SECTOR
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to set up an independent Coal Regulatory Authority for allocation of coal and other facilities in the coal sector;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has issued any draft regarding setting up of the said authority;
- (c) if so, the details of the salient features of the said draft; and
- (d) the time by which the said authority is likely to be set up?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): On the basis of the recommendations of the Group of Ministers (GoM) the revised draft Bill, 2013 for setting up of a Coal Regulatory Authority has been approved.

(c): The salient features of the Bill includes functions and structure of the Coal Regulatory Authority. Function includes specifying the 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 & weighment; advise the Central Government in formulation of policies; promotion of competition; efficiency; investment in coal industry; dispute resolution etc. The Coal Regulatory Authority will also have an advisory role on formulation of policies in coal sector. The Coal Regulatory Authority will have a Chairperson and four other Members, namely, Legal, Technical, Finance and Consumer Interest of which any one will be designated to look after the work of administration.

The draft Bill also provides that the Appellate Tribunal for Electricity already established under the Electricity Act, 2003 will act as Appellate Tribunal for the appeals against the decisions of the Regulatory Authority for Coal, by adding one more Technical Member (Coal) in the said Appellate Tribunal.

(d): As the Bill requires legislative enactment in the Parliament no time frame can indicated at present.