

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:286  
ANSWERED ON:11.02.2014  
REGULATORY MECHANISM FOR COAL SECTOR  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) the current status regarding setting up of Coal Regulatory Authority in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has consulted all the stakeholders before arriving at this decision;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such authority will be made operational;
- (d) whether Coal India Limited and private players will have an even level playing field in the production and marketing of the coal in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS MENTIONED IN ANSWER TO THE QUESTION NO.286 FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2014 ASKED BY SHRI HANSRAJ G.AHIR REGARDING REGULATORY MECHANISM FOR COAL SECTOR.

(a)to(e) Based on recommendations of various committees the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad was appointed as a consultant by the Ministry of Coal to draft the Coal Regulatory Authority Bill for the purpose of regulating and conserving resources in the coal sector and protecting the interests of consumers of coal and producers of coal and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

ASCI held extensive consultations with all the stake-holders, ie., consumers, producers and States to evolve a broad consensus over the need for a Coal Regulator and the basic powers/ responsibilities to be vested in the same.

Draft Bill on Regulator for coal sector based on report of ASCI was circulated to all the concerned Ministries and the Department i.e. Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Ministry of Law & Justice and Planning Commission seeking their views/comments.

The Ministries/Departments had expressed divergent views on some of the provisions of the said draft Bill. After consideration of the comments received from different Ministries/ Department and taking them in to account, the draft Bill, 2012 was prepared and submitted for the consideration of the competent authority and it was decided to refer the same to the Group of Ministers (GoM).

The GoM had held five meetings and a draft Bill, 2013 with changes as per the discussions held in GoMs was finalized in consultations with the Ministry of Law. The same was approved by the competent authority on 27.6.2013. The Ministry of Coal has introduced the Coal Regulatory Authority Bill, 2013 in the Lok Sabha on 13.12.2013. The competent authority has also decided that a non-statutory Regulator be set up through an executive order as enactment of legislation would take some time.