

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
POWER  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:654  
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2015  
ACQUIRING OF POWER PLANTS IN FOREIGN BY NTPC  
Nayak Shri B.V.

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up a designated task-force to explore possibilities for upgrading engineering designs aiming at reduction in generation cost of power in the country in view of global development of such technologies and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the import of fuel (coal) directly by NTPC rather than channeling through prevalent system is likely to be a cost-effective alternative and if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) whether the NTPC has acquired power plants in Europe, Australia, etc. with good coal linkage and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether ownership of mines abroad would be reoriented and aimed towards cost-cutting measures and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY ( SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL )

- (a) : There is no such task force set up. However, an advanced Ultra Super Critical Technology R&D Project has been approved by Government at a cost of Rs.1500 Crore involving BHEL, NTPC and Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) for enhanced efficiency of thermal generation.
- (b) : As per prevalent system, NTPC is directly importing coal.
- (c) : No, Madam.
- (d) : In view of (c) above, question does not arise.