

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4883

ANSWERED ON:23.04.2015

LIGNITE BASED POWER PROJECT

Bhabhor Shri Jasvantsinh Sumanbhai; Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has signed an MoU with M/s Naively Lignite Corporation Limited (NLCL) in July 2006 for implementation of a Lignite based 1500 MW power project in South Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details and the objectives thereof;

(c) whether the Government of Gujarat has requested the Union Government to impress upon NLCL to convey its NOC for allocation of lignite blocks in South Gujarat to Government of Gujarat or its PSU i.e. GIPCL; and

(d) if so, the time by which NOC is likely to be conveyed by NLS in South Gujarat in favour GIPCL?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a & b) : A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC) and Government of Gujarat (GoG) on 28.7.2007 to promote a Joint Venture Company (JVC) with the aim of establishing and operating an integrated lignite mine and lignite based Thermal Power Project of 1000 MW capacity in the 1st Phase and another 500 MW in the 2nd Phase subject to confirmation of availability of adequate lignite reserve in South Gujarat (Valia E, F, G Blocks). It was indicated in the MoU that sharing of the power would be fixed by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.

(c & d) : During the joint meeting held between the Principal Secretary, Industry Department, GoG & NLC on 13.3.2013, the GoG, requested NLC to issue 'No Objection Certificate' for E, F, G blocks for development by State Public Sector Undertaking (PSU). NLC informed that an MoU had already been signed between NLC and GoG for establishing and operating an integrated lignite mine based power project of 1000 MW capacity in the first phase and addition 500 MW second phase by utilizing the E, F, G blocks. Hence, NLC had not agreed to issue 'No Objection Certificate' to GoG for the E, F & G blocks.

GoG has made a request to Ministry of Coal to impress upon NLC Limited to convey its 'No Objection Certificate' (NOC) for allocation of lignite blocks in South Gujarat to GoG or its PSU.

In this regard, a meeting was held on 26.06.2014 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) and it was decided that Vallia E, F & G blocks will be retained with NLC so as to establish a Thermal Power Station in line with the existing MoU signed GoG and accordingly suggested to issue mining lease to NLC.