

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6023
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
COAL BLOCKS OF NTPC
Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had submitted affidavit to the Hon'ble Supreme Court stating that NTPC's PakriBarwadih Coal Block will commence coal production by financial year 2014-15;
- (b) if so, whether the said coal block has produced coal and if so, the quantum of coal produced by March, 2015; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for the delay in coal production by NTPC?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The affidavit submitted by the Government to the Hon'ble Supreme Court was based on the specific information submitted by the Coal Controller's Organisation and the respective allocatee companies on the coal blocks where mine opening permission was granted by it and were likely to come into production during 2014-2015. The information furnished in the affidavit duly sworn in, by the respective allocatee company included reply from NTPC for Pakri Barwadih coal block.

This coal block was allocated to NTPC as a basket source to meet shortfall in coal requirement of NTPC's power stations in Northern and Eastern Region. NTPC took all steps in time and progressed well in obtaining of statutory clearances / permissions for start of mining in this block.

- 1) Mining Plan & Mine Closure Plan approved by Ministry of Coal.
- 2) Environment Clearance, Stage-I and II Forest Clearances, accorded by Ministry of Environment & Forest.
- 3) Priority land is available for start of mining.
- 4) Majority of Government land has been transferred by State Government.
- 5) 'Consent to Establish' and 'Consent to Operate' received from Jharkhand State Pollution Controller Board.
- 6) Escrow Account for mine closure opened and Tripartite Escrow Agreement signed with Coal Controller and Banker.
- 7) Mine Opening Permission received from DGMS as well as Coal Controller.

Mainly, the following situations affected / delayed the process :

- 1) Law and order situation was not conducive. Work interrupted / stopped by a group of villagers.
- 2) No policy was available in Jharkhand for encroachers of less than 30 years in Government land i.e. GairMajrooh (GM land) and GM-jungle-jhari land and also for those in forest land (not covered under Forest Act).
- 3) MDO, appointed by NTPC, could not perform at site. NTPC has tendered afresh – under process.

In a recent meeting of NTPC held with District Administration in the month of April, compensation for such encroachers has been declared and local situation is expected to improve in a couple of months.