

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding allotment of coal mines in Western Odisha.

DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH (BARGARH): Thank you Speaker Madam for allowing me to speak on an important matter regarding Mahanadi Coalfields situated in my parliamentary constituency, Bargarh.

Madam Speaker, we all know about the importance of coal in the Indian economy. The Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) has an outstanding record in operating several coalmines in Western Odisha. It has achieved record production in 2017-18 while keeping in mind the rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected families. The MCL, over the years, has developed an effective system for close coordination with the local authorities and the local communities for land acquisition, rehabilitation and settlement of the affected people, which is so essential for operationalisation of coalmines. But now the Ministry of Coal has decided to allot four coalmines of Odisha, namely, Rampla, the Dip side of Rampla, Ghogarpalli and Dip Extension of Ghogarpalli not to MCL but to the Western Coalfields Limited which has its headquarters at Nagpur.

I would like to request, through you, Madam, the Coal Ministry to review its decision and allot these four mines of Odisha to the MCL, instead of allotting it to another Coal India Limited subsidiary located far away from the field of operation.

HON. SPEAKER:

Shri Rabindra Kumar Jena and

12/6/2018

Dr. Kulmani Samal are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Dr. Prabhas Kumar Singh.