

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY  
(DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE)

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2844**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 15<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2021**

**DISINVESTMENT OF NINL**

2844. SHRI MAHESH SAHOO:

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE & INDUSTRY** (वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री) be pleased to state:

- (a) the duration that will be taken to complete disinvestment of Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (NINL) in Odisha as employees of NINL are deprived of salary since March, 2020 along with the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is any reason that NINL operation couldn't commence by merging with ATL/RINL/NMDC like NINL Captive mines operation started with the financial assistance of NMDC and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons for revival of NINL as production stopped since March, 2020;
- (d) whether NINL employees would be provided benefits such as pay scale revision, DPC, VRS, pension etc. during disinvestment period, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether service terms and conditions of NINL employees would remain unaltered after disinvestment and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल)

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**  
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)

(a) to (e): Government of India on 08.01.2020 has accorded 'in-principle' approval for strategic disinvestment of entire shareholding of all 4 Central Public Sector Enterprises and 2 Odisha Government PSUs shareholding (93.71%) in NINL through a single transaction. Expression of Interest (EoI) was invited on 25.01.2021. After short listing of bidders and an elaborate process of due diligence, Request for Proposal (RFP) document inviting financial bids has been issued to the Qualified Interested Bidders (QIBs). Outstanding dues of salary of employees upto December, 2020 have been disbursed.

A conscious decision has been taken by Government for strategic disinvestment of NINL. The selling Shareholders have signed a Waterfall Agreement amongst themselves for distribution of disinvestment receipts, which ranks priority for payment of various dues and liabilities of NINL, out of which dues of employees get the highest priority from the proceeds of the sale. There are employee protection provisions in the definitive agreement to be entered into by selling shareholders and successful bidder.

\*\*\*\*\*