LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1841 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.05.2016

Involvement of Nagpur based Companies in Coal Scam

1841: DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the involvement and illegal action of Nagpur based companies in the coal scam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had initiated investigation and action against the companies involved in the coal scam; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of investigation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

- (a to d):On the directions of the Central Vigilance Commission and based on certain complaints received in the Ministry of Coal from the Hon'ble Members of Parliament alleging irregularities in allocation of coal blocks during the period 1993 to 2004 to private companies, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered the following 3 Preliminary Enquiry cases regarding alleged irregularities in allocation of coal blocks:
 - (i) Relating to allocation of coal blocks to private companies during the period 2006-09.
 - (ii) Relating to allocation of coal blocks to private companies during the period 1993-2004 and
 - (iii) Relating to allocation of coal blocks to Government companies, including Nagpur based companies who were allocated coal blocks.

It is reported by the CBI that it has registered several First Information Reports (FIRs) against various companies in the matter. The investigation of CBI is being monitored by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Attention is invited to the observations of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (Criminal) No.120 of 2012 wherein CBI has been directed not to share any details of the investigation with the Government.

Further, a Joint Surprise Check (JSC) by CBI ACB, Jabalpur and vigilance officers of Western Coalfields Limited(WCL) at Shivpuri Open Cast(OC) Mine, Pench Area was conducted on 1.2.2016, on a complaint received by CBI Jabalpur regarding a criminal conspiracy by Shivpuri Mine officials with the contractor at Parasia to cheat WCL. During the joint surprise check it was revealed that Over Burden(OB) had been dumped by the contractor at unauthorised area. During the floor survey, it was revealed that some amount of coal was left in the mine and huge OB was dumped on it to conceal coal. Coal India Limited(CIL) and its subsidiary companies have been directed to check such illegal action in their areas.

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Another complaint alleging that some industrial units situated in Nagpur District were lifting coal at subsidised rate from WCL and without consuming the said coal in their industrial units, were selling the said coal in open market illegally at a premium and at the same time were using imported coal/hard coke/Electricity, was taken up with the State Government of Maharashtra. On the basis of inspection reports of the units it was found that out of 114 industrial units only 10 industrial units were not in working condition. Therefore, coal supply to those units was immediately stopped by Maharashtra State Cooperative Consumers' Federation Limited(MSCCFL),Mumbai. Name of these10 units are 1) M/s. Amey Paper Mill Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur, 2) M/s. Aparjeet Health Care Product, Nagpur, 3) M/s. Detco Textile Pvt. Ltd., Thane, 4) M/s. Ganga Agency, Nagpur, 5) M/s. Jalaram Feeds, Nagpur, 6) M/s. Jatin Coal Briquetting Industries, Wardha, 7) M/s. Mineral & Metal Resources, Nagpur, 8) M/s. Shri Shivkripa Synthetics Pvt. Ltd., Nagpur, 9) M/s. Shri Rani Satjit Agro Industries, Nagpur & 10) M/s. Solanki Ceramics Industries, Nagpur.
