

employees working in Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries, subsidiary-wise is as under :-

Company	No. of women employees
Eastern Coalfields Limited	9.697
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	10.816
Central Coalfields Limited	6.297
Western Coalfields Limited	3.671
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	3.127
Mahanadi Coalfields Limited	819
Northern Coalfields Limited	413
North Eastern Coalfields Limited	295
Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited	141
Dankuni Coal Complex	20
Coal India Limited (H.Q.)	183
Total	35,479

(b) The average amount of wages salary being paid to the women employees is at par with that of other male employees.

(c) Some of the steps taken to improve the plight of women working in Coal India Limited are as under :-

- (i) Training of female workers for upgradation of skill;
- (ii) Female workers in different groups are taken on excursion to workshops where other female employees are working in technical jobs;
- (iii) Trade Unions and Workers Education Centres are involved in various schemes for the welfare of the female employees.

Extraction of Coal from Kaniha and IB Valley

2714. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal for the extraction of coal from Kaniha and IB Valley in Orissa;

(b) whether the proposal has been cleared by the Environment and Forests Ministry; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to start the mining activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) : (a) Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) has planned to work Kaniha OCP in Talcher

coalfields and Government had sanctioned an advance action plan for an amount of Rs. 6.38 crores in October, 1995 for this project. MCL has also planned to work projects in IB Valley coalfields to meet the demand of power sector.

(b) The approval from Ministry of Environment and Forest is awaited.

(c) Mining activities in Kaniha project will be started after completion of administrative formalities, land acquisition and development of required infrastructure. Steps have been taken to provide core manpower for the same.

Nilanchal Ispat Nigam Steel Plant

2715. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the share of Union Government, State Government and other shareholders in Nilanchal Ispat Nigam Steel Plant;

(b) the details of progress made so far by the said steel plant; and

(c) the time by which the commercial production is likely to be started by the said steel plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI RAMESH BAIS) : (a) The share of Union Government, State Government and other shareholders in Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd. are as under :-

Shareholders	Share Proposed (Rs. crores)
Union Government:	NIL
State Government:	NIL
Others :	
(i) MMTC (a Central PSU)	100
(ii) IPICOL (a State PSU)	73
(iii) MECON (a Central PSU)	5
(iv) Fils/Equipment suppliers	130
(v) Unsecured loan/Private Placement	50
(vi) Public issue	245
(b) The details of progress made so far is as under :-	
(i) Civil Works:	47%
(ii) Structural Works	25%
(iii) Erection of Mechanical equipment	4%
(iv) Electrical installation	3%

(c) The Steel Plant is expected to start commercial production by April, 2000.