

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3593
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2003
PRODUCTION LOSS DUE TO NON AVAILABILITY OF LAND
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the CMD, BCCL has stated that the production in BCCL is suffering due to the non-availability of land;
- (b) if so, the facts and details of the matter;
- (c) whether there is a tribal land dispute in Kashunda Area of BCCL with large Area and huge reserve are not getting solved;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the BCCL has accepted the arbitration of the District Administration to solve such land problem;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL) :

(a) and (b) There are 28 cases of land disputes pending in Bharat Coking Coal Limited(BCCL) as on 1.7.2003. The total area involved is 870.82 acres and estimated quantity of coal reserve under the land is 100.06 million tonnes (both coking and non-coking). Loss of the production is approximately 5 million tonnes per year due to non-availability of land. Negotiations and meetings have been held from time to time with villagers and their representatives. Help of District Administration also has been sought in the matter. Meetings have also been held at the level of SDO, Addl. Collector and Dy. Commissioner, Commissioner and also at the level of Chief Secretary from time to time.

(c) Yes, Sir. Certain disputes have not yet been resolved,

(d) to (f) Against eligibility of 32 employment, 50 employment were agreed to in the tripartite meeting consisting of the Commissioner, Chhotanagpur and then Chairman-cum-Managing Director, BCCL the then Member of Parliament, Shri A. K. Roy held on 28.8.1982. Thereafter, 42 employments have been released by management in 1989 as per directions of Commissioner, North Chotanagpur Division. Against this original employment of 42, the present strength is only 22. Therefore, for smooth functioning and uninterrupted working of Vishwakarma Project BCCL is willing to release further 28 employments to maintain the decided figure of 50 employments without prejudice to its rights, as against the new demand of 38 more employments.

Despite release of such large number of employments, physical possession over land required for Vishwakarma Project which has reserve of 6.52 million tonnes of coal is still nil on account of repeated obstructions being caused by claimants/land owners. The matter relating to determination of claims of ownership by tribals and application of provisions of Chhota Nagpur Tenancy Act to land acquired under the provision of Coal Mine Nationalisation Acts of 1972 and 1973, is subjudice before Jharkhand High Court. Vishwakarma Project was sanctioned by Coal India Limited (CIL) on 19.9.1997 for a capacity of 0.71 million tonnes per year and sanctioned capital of Rupees 44.74 crores. Due to non-availability of land, the project has been kept in abeyance.

(g) Rehabilitation against acquisition of land is provided by BCCL in accordance with provision contained in Coal India Limited (R & R) Policy. BCCL has been and would be quite willing to accept arbitration of the District Administration to solve land problem provided solutions are attempted and found within the laid down norms of the company.