

Sixteenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Need to revise royalty on coal and earmark 60 percent of clean environment cess to coal - bearing states.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Madam, Indian Government has to revise royalty on coal in April 2015. However, it has not been revised so far despite the fact that the State Government of Odisha has requested the Union Government time and again to revise it. Instead of revising royalty on coal, the Union Government has raised the clean environment cess from Rs.200 to Rs.400 per tonne. Further, the State Government has requested for earmarking of the remaining 60 per cent of the environment and rehabilitation cess to coal-bearing States as they have to bear the cost of environment degradation and rehabilitation.

The State Government of Odisha has raised this issue in the GST Council meeting but the Council has decided that the entire proceeds of the cess would be used for GST Compensation Fund meant for all States. Thus, the coal-bearing States have been deprived of both enhancement in royalty and share in coal cess.

I, therefore, urge the Government to revise royalty on coal and earmark at least 60 per cent of clean environment cess to coal-bearing States.

HON. SPEAKER: Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani, Shri Nishikant Dubey, Dr. Kulmani Samal are allowed to associate with the issue raised by Shri B. Mahtab.