

IMMEDIATE

No. CPD-23014/1/2025-CPD

Government of India

(भारत सरकार)

Ministry of Coal

(कोयला मंत्रालय)

Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi, the 14th February, 2025

To

- i. Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Coal India Limited, Coal Bhawan, Plot No. AF-III, Action Area - IA, Newtown, Rajarhat, Kolkata- 700156
- ii. Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Singareni Collieries Company Limited, Singareni Bhawan, PB No. 18, Red Hills, Khairatabad PO, Hyderabad, Telangana

Subject: Meeting of the Standing Linkage Committee (Long-Term) for Power Sector – SLC (LT) No. 01/2025

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith the approved Minutes of the Meeting of the SLC (LT) for Power Sector held on 11.02.2025 to consider the request for coal linkage to Central / State Sector power plants and to review the status of existing coal linkages / LoAs & other related matters.

Yours faithfully,



(Sudarshan Bhagat)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tele. No. 011-23381536 / email – dircpd.moc@nic.in

Encl: (1)

Copy to -

1.	Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal	Chairperson
2.	Principal Advisor (Energy), NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhawan New Delhi	Member
3.	Joint Secretary (Coal), Ministry of Coal	Member

4.	Advisor (Projects), Ministry of Coal	Member
5.	Joint Secretary (Thermal), Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi	Member
6.	Joint Secretary (Ports), Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi	Member
7.	Executive Director, Coal, Railway Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi	Member
8.	Director (Marketing), Coal India Limited	Member
9.	CMD's SCCL, BCCL, CCL, ECL, MCL, NCL, SECL & WCL	Members
10.	Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd., Gondwana Place, Kanke Road, Ranchi	Member
11.	Chairman, Central Electricity Authority, Sewa Bhawan, RK Puram, New Delhi	Member
12.	Chairman, NTPC, Scope Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003	Member

Copy to:

- (i) Coal Controller, Coal Controller Organization, Delhi
- (ii) Director (Technical), CIL, Kolkata
- (iii) GM (S&M), CIL, Kolkata
- (iv) GM (S&M), CIL, Delhi

Copy also to –

1. PS to Minister of Coal
2. PS to Minister of State for Coal
3. PSO to Secretary (Coal)
4. PPS to Additional Secretary (VT)
6. PPS to Joint Secretary (CPD)
7. PS to ED (CTC)
8. PS to Director, O/o the Nominated Authority
9. NIC, Ministry of Coal – with the request to upload the Minutes of the Meeting in the website of Ministry of Coal.

Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) for Power Sector on 11.02.2025 [SLC (LT) 1 / 2025]

List of participants is at the **Annexure.**

Agenda Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of the SLC (LT) held on 27.11.2024.

Record of Discussion: There were no comments from any of the members.

Recommendations: Minutes of the Meeting of the SLC (LT) held on 27.11.2024 is confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 2: Coal linkage to the balance 140 MW (800 - 660) of Buxar Thermal Power Plant (TPP) Unit - 3 of SJVNL:

Ministry of Power vide O.M dated 02.12.2024 has recommended the request of SJVN Thermal (P) Ltd. (SJVNL) for grant of long term coal linkage for the enhanced capacity of 140 MW (800 MW- 660 MW) of Buxar Thermal Power Plant (TPP) Unit – 3 under Para B(i) of SHAKTI Policy. Ministry of Power has informed that SJVNL have explored the feasibility of installing 1x800 MW ultra-super critical unit at Buxar in place of 1x660 MW unit and decided to go-ahead with installing 1x800 MW at Buxar TPP. Further, the revised capacity of Buxar TPP has been included by CEA as a candidate thermal power plant in the proposed additional capacity requirement by FY 2031-32. Ministry of Power has also informed that the proposed project is non-pithead brownfield expansion project and is not linked with any captive coal mine.

SLC (LT) in its meeting held on 16.06.2023 had recommended for grant of coal linkage under Para B (i) of SHAKTI Policy to Buxar TPP Stage – II, Unit – 3 (1 x 660 MW) of SJVNL from Coal India Limited.

Record of Discussion: Ministry of Power informed that the Buxar TPP Unit - 3 of SJVNL is a part of 80 GW expansion plan of Ministry of Power and coal linkage for the enhanced capacity of 140 MW has been recommended based on the feasibility study conducted by SJVNL. It was informed that the existing land of SJVNL Plant will be utilized by the expansion unit and Unit-3 shall be operational by FY 2031-32. Ministry of Power recommended for coal linkage for the revised capacity of the Unit-3.

Representative of SJVNL informed that the 1st Unit of SJVNL Buxar TPP is operational and CoD of the 2nd Unit shall be achieved by April, 2025. In view of the fact that earlier linkage was recommended in June, 2023 for Unit – 3 (1 x 660 MW), it was further stated by the project proponent that the work in Unit-3 got delayed due to Land Acquisition and Railway siding issues, however, the same has been resolved. Representative of SJVNL requested for grant of coal linkage for the revised capacity.

CEA recommended for grant of coal linkage for the revised capacity.

NITI Aayog also recommended for grant of coal linkage for the balance 140 MW (800 - 660) of Buxar TPP Unit - 3 of SJVNL.

Coal India Limited stated that it can offer coal from its sources for the revised capacity also.

Recommendation: In view of the recommendation of Ministry of Power and keeping in view that long term coal linkage under Para B (i) of SHAKTI Policy has already been granted to Buxar TPP Stage – II, Unit – 3 (1 x 660 MW) of SJVNL, SLC (LT) recommended for coal linkage to Buxar TPP Stage – II, Unit – 3 revised capacity of 1 x 800 MW of SJVNL under Para B (i) of SHAKTI Policy from Coal India Limited.

Agenda Item No. 3: Coal linkage to the State of Bihar under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy:

Ministry of Power vide O.M dated 24.01.2025 has recommended to earmark the long-term coal linkage to the Government of Bihar under SHAKTI Para B (iv) to tie-up power for 2400 MW through coal-based capacity in order to meet the required addition of coal-based capacity and mitigate the gap between increased demand and availability. Ministry of Power has stated that it has envisaged around 80 GW of additional coal-based capacity requirement in the country by FY 2031-32 and about 26 GW of coal-based plants are already under construction and accordingly, it has requested the States including the State of Bihar, where Resource Adequacy studies have been completed to urgently plan to meet the gap by either addition of new capacity, through its own resources or by floating power procurement bids under Tariff Policy, 2016 or under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy. Further, Government of Bihar has informed that it has existing & planned contract of 8758 MW coal-based capacity up to FY 2033-34. Ministry of Power has also stated that as per the Resource Adequacy Plan prepared by CEA, a total 3000 MW of thermal capacity is required to be added by FY 2033-34 in Bihar's Power Portfolio as per Delayed Capacity Addition Scenario. Additionally, Ministry of Power has stated that the

anticipated load growth for Metro systems and EV charging stations within the state is at least 500 MW by FY 2029-30. Further, the shortfall in Short Term Open Access (STOA) in delayed capacity addition scenario is expected to be more than 4000 MW in FY 2033-34, which may be difficult to arrange from market at competitive rate and therefore, the total capacity requirement could exceed 4000 MW. Ministry of Power has stated that to meet the deficit, Government of Bihar is willing to tie-up 2400 MW coal-based capacity on long term basis through TBCB under Para B(iv) of SHAKTI Policy to balance its power purchase & financial position.

Record of Discussion: Representative of Government of Bihar stated that as per the Resource Adequacy Plan prepared by CEA, 3000 MW of thermal capacity addition is required in the State by FY 2033-34 as per Delayed Capacity Addition Scenario. Besides, there will be additional thermal capacity requirement considering the anticipated load growth for Metro systems, EV charging stations and industrial growth within the state by FY 2029-30. It was stated that Government of Bihar is willing to tie-up 2400 MW coal-based capacity on long-term basis through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding (TBCB) with the coal linkage under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy and requested to earmark coal linkage quantity of 12 MTPA for tying up 2400 MW of power. Representative of Government of Bihar also informed that it has planned to procure the power through creation of new capacity at Pirpainti, District – Bhagalpur, Bihar and the anticipated power drawl shall start in 4 – 5 years time. It was informed that the bid documents for the TBCB have already been finalized and the same shall be floated as soon as the coal linkage is earmarked to the State of Bihar under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy. It was also stated that the work will be awarded by May, 2025.

Ministry of Power informed that the Government of Bihar had conducted pre-feasibility study and after confirming the feasibility, proposal for earmarking coal linkage for 2400 MW has been received from Government of Bihar. Ministry of Power recommended for earmarking of coal linkage to the State of Bihar for 2400 MW under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy.

NITI Aayog recommended for earmarking of coal linkage under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy to the State of Bihar.

NTPC also recommended for earmarking of coal linkage under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy to the State of Bihar.

SCCL stated that it would not be able to offer coal linkage under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy to the State of Bihar.

Coal India Limited stated that coal can be offered from the available sources.

Recommendations: SLC (LT) recommended for earmarking of coal linkage from Coal India Limited for a capacity of 2400 MW under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy to the State of Bihar. Coal India Limited shall intimate the earmarked linkage with description to the State of Bihar with information to Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Power. The tripartite agreements in terms of LoA / FSA may be entered into between the concerned coal company, State Government and the successful bidder, as may be the case. This intimation shall also be furnished to Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Power. SLC (LT) also recommended that in case the TBCB gets delayed, then the same shall be informed by the State of Bihar to the coal company, Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Power.

Agenda Item No. 4: Coal linkage to the State of Gujarat under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy:

Ministry of Power vide O.M dated 02.12.2024 has requested that the validity of coal linkages earmarked to the State of Gujarat under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy be extended till 30.06.2026 for 2672 MW [3000 MW – 328 MW (already finalized under Tranche-I)]. Ministry of Power has stated that Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (GUVNL) is under process of bidding in Tranche-II and therefore, coal linkage to the successful bidder (s) is necessary for supply of power to the State of Gujarat. Ministry of Power has informed that GUVNL has initiated the process of preparation of bidding documents for tie-up from New upcoming Thermal Capacity for long-term power procurement and from existing capacity for medium-term power procurement.

SLC (LT) in its meeting held on 24.06.2019 had recommended earmarking of coal linkages under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy from Coal India Limited for the State of Gujarat for a capacity of 4000 MW. Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy states that the quantity remaining unutilized for 2 years continuously shall lapse. Coal linkages earmarked under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy were reviewed in the meeting of the SLC (LT) held on 21.09.2022. SLC (LT)

in its meeting held on 21.09.2022 recommended for continuation of coal linkage earmarked to the State of Gujarat under SHAKTI B (iv) to the extent of power requirement to be procured through tariff-based bidding. SLC (LT) further recommended that FSA be signed by the successful bidders with the coal companies within 6 months of the date of issuance of the minutes of the meeting of the SLC (LT) and the balance quantity of coal linkage shall lapse. Additionally, SLC (LT) in its meeting held on 16.06.2023 had granted time extension for signing of FSAs with the successful bidders of the TBCB undertaken by GUVNL and had clarified that the recommendation is for 3000 MW only for which TBCB has been undertaken by GUVNL. SLC (LT) had also recommended that FSA be signed by the successful bidder (s) under SHAKTI B (iv) with the coal companies within 3 months of the date of issuance of the Minutes of the Meeting of the SLC (LT) and also clarified that the recommendation is only for 3000 MW only for which Tariff Based Bidding has been undertaken by GUVNL.

Matter of extension of validity of coal linkage earmarked to the State of Gujarat under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy / timeline for signing of FSAs was last taken up in the meeting of the SLC (LT) held on 01.03.2024. During the meeting, Ministry of Power had informed that the 1st Tranche of TBCB for the procurement of power has been completed by GUVNL and in the first Tranche, 328 MW of power has been tied up. Further, the 2nd Tranche is under process and in this Tranche, 2700 MW shall be tied up by the State. CEA had stated in the meeting that signing of FSA with the successful bidders of both the Tranches shall be completed by June, 2024. SLC (LT) had recommended in the meeting that the FSA be signed with the successful bidders of the TBCB by 30.06.2024.

Record of Discussion: Representative of Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (GUVNL) apprised the Committee that pursuant to earmarking of coal linkage to the State of Gujarat in the meeting of the SLC (LT) held on 24.06.2019, GUVNL has floated two tranches of tender for tying up power. In the first tranche, bids were invited for procurement of 3000 MW of power on long-term basis and after carrying out the bidding, GUVNL has signed PPA with the successful bidder for aggregated capacity of 328 MW. FSA has already been signed by Coal India Limited with the successful bidder on 16.09.2024 and coal drawl under the FSA has started. Representative of GUVNL further informed that the bid for second Tranche was floated for procurement of 2400 MW from existing / new capacities, and in the Tranche-II, bid for 310 MW capacity has been technically qualified. Further, the financial bid for 310 MW has also

been opened. Presently, price bid evaluation / negotiation is under progress. Subsequently, the successful bidder shall be identified. Signing of PPA and FSA shall require further 6 months. It was stated that only after this, the balance capacity will be floated in Tranche-III for procurement of long-term power from new capacity addition and possibly for procurement of medium-term power from existing capacity. Representative of GUVNL also stated that response from bidders in Tranche-I & II has been poor due to change in market dynamics. Even the price bids received in Tranche-II is on a higher side, for which negotiations are currently going on with the successful bidder.

CEA stated that the requirement of Gujarat may not be met from the existing capacities and suggested that GUVNL may consider procuring its long-term requirement through creation of new thermal capacities.

NITI Aayog stated that coal linkage to the State of Gujarat was earmarked in 2019 and it has been more than 5 years that the entire linkage has not been utilized by the State. Extensions have been granted on earlier occasions and therefore, any further extension may be viewed in terms of the SHAKTI Policy.

SLC (LT) discussed that Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy states that the quantity remaining unutilized for 2 years continuously shall lapse and it has been more than 5 years, the linkage earmarked under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy to the State of Gujarat has not been utilized completely and still procurement process of 2362 MW [3000 – (328 + 310)] of power is not completed. It was discussed that source of coal earmarked may not be kept idle for an indefinite period and it may be difficult for Coal India Limited to plan for the coal availability considering its commitments. It was also discussed that coal linkage corresponding to 2362 MW may be considered as lapsed and the State of Gujarat may apply afresh to Ministry of Power for earmarking of coal linkage under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy.

Ministry of Power suggested that GUVNL should give a break-up of its Medium-term and long-term power requirement and make a request for fresh earmarking of coal linkage under Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy.

Recommendations: In view of the discussions held and keeping in view the provisions of Para B (iv) of SHAKTI Policy, SLC (LT) noted that for 328 MW, out of 3000 MW, the FSA has already been signed and coal drawl has commenced. Apart from that, with respect to the coal linkage earmarked to the State of Gujarat corresponding to 310 MW only, FSA to be signed by the successful bidder of Tariff Based Competitive Bidding with the coal companies within 6 months of the date of issuance of the Minutes of the Meeting of the SLC (LT). The balance quantity of coal linkage corresponding to 2362 MW shall lapse. For any further requirement, project proponent may approach afresh through Ministry of Power.

Annexure

Ministry of Coal

1. Ms Vismita Tej, Additional Secretary [In the Chair]
2. Shri Sanjeev Kumar Kassi, Joint Secretary (CPD)
3. Shri Rama Kant Singh, Executive Director (CTC)
4. Shri Sudarshan Bhagat, Deputy Secretary (CPD)

Ministry of Power

1. Shri Piyush Singh, Joint Secretary

Ministry of Railways

1. Shri Avinash Mishra, Executive Director (Coal)

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

1. Shri Rajesh Asati, Deputy Secretary

NITI Aayog

1. Shri Jawahar Lal, General Manager (Energy)
2. Shri Ravi Kumar, Consultant

Central Electricity Authority

1. Shri Rajeev Kumar, Chief Engineer
2. Shri Kumar Saurabh, Director
3. Shri Sanjay Jain

Coal India Limited

1. Shri Mukesh Choudhary, Director (Marketing)

Mahanadi Coalfields Limited

1. Shri A.K. Lakra, General Manager (M&S)

Northern Coalfields Limited

1. Shri Saurabh Kumar, Manager (M&S)

South Eastern Coalfields Limited

1. Shri T.S Behera, General Manager (M&S)

Eastern Coalfields Limited

1. Shri P.K. Mishra, General Manager (M&S)

Western Coalfields Limited

1. Shri Anand Temurnikar, General Manager (M&S)

Central Coalfields Limited

1. Shri Surendra Pratap Yadav, Senior Manager (M&S)

Bharat Coking Coal Limited

1. Shri Nishant Virmani, Senior Manager

Singareni Collieries Company Limited

1. Shri Surender Raju, General Manager (Through VC)

NTPC Limited

1. Shri Satish Upadhyay, Executive Director (Through VC)

Coal Controller Organization

1. Shri Joginder Singh, OSD
2. Shri Ranvijay Singh, OSD

Government of Bihar

1. Shri Pankaj Kumar Pal, Secretary (Energy Department) (Through VC)

Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited

1. Shri Sanjay Mathur, General Manager (Commerce)

SJVNL

1. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Senior Manager