

Coal unions boycott govt meet to go on 5 day strike – Report

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PTI reported that boycotting a meeting convened by the government, all major trade unions of Coal India Limited gave a go ahead to coal workers across the country to launch a 5 day strike from Tuesday which may hit the power sector and cause a daily loss of up to INR 150 crore.

Terming the protest action as unprecedented in the history of the coal industry, the unions urged the workers to participate in it in a militant manner to oppose the coal block allocation ordinance and moves to privatise the sector.

Demonstrating unity, all 5 major trade unions of the coal PSU - BMS, INTUC, AITUC, CITU and HMS boycotted a meeting called by Coal Minister Mr Piyush Goyal, saying the government's move to re-promulgate the ordinance after the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Bill could not be passed in Rajya Sabha reflected the government's arrogance.

The unions said that a consensus had emerged among them after the government displayed enough arrogance over re-issuing the ordinance without any consultations with the unions.

Coal Mines Officers' Association of India (CMOAI) has extended support to the proposed strike.

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