

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2755  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2024**

**New Regulations for Coal Import**

**2755. SHRI ESWARASAMY K:**

Will the Minister of **COAL** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the current status of coal imports in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has introduced any new policies or regulations regarding coal imports during the past year and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the Union Government is allowing State Governments to directly import coal, rather than relying on Coal India Limited and other centralized sources and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the potential benefits and drawbacks of such a policy change;
- (e) whether coal shortages and supply chain issues affected power generation and electricity availability across different States in India over the past 12-24 months and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to address these challenges at the state level?

**Answer**

**MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES  
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)**

**(a):** The detail of coal import during last three years, and current year are given below: -

(in Million Tonnes)

Year	Coking Coal	Non-Coking Coal	Total Import
2021-22	57.12	151.51	208.63
2022-23	56.05	181.62	237.67
2023-24	58.12	202.88	261.00
2024-25 upto May 2024	10.46	36.86	47.32

**(b)to(d):** As per the existing import policy, coal is kept under the Open General License (OGL) and consumers are free to import coal from the source of their choice as per their contractual agreement on payment of applicable duty. Most of the requirement of coal in the country is met through indigenous production.

**(e)** There is no coal shortage in the country. Most of the requirement of coal in the country is met through indigenous coal production and supply. The focus of the Government is on increasing the domestic production of coal and to eliminate non-essential import of coal in the country. The all-India domestic coal production in the year 2023-2024 was 997.828 Million Tonne (MT) (Provisional) in comparison to 893.191 MT in the year 2022-2023 with the growth of about 11.71 %.

**(ii)** In FY 2023-24, coal supply was 973.015 MT (provisional) in comparison to 877.369 MT in FY 2022-23, with a growth of 10.9%. During the same year, coal supply to Power sector was 807.2 MT (provisional) in comparison to 744.6 MT in FY 2022-23, with a growth of 8.4%. The coal stock available at the power plants as on 31.07.2024 is about 45.8 MT, which is sufficient for about 19 days.

**(f):** To address the issues of coal supplies to Power Sector, an Inter-Ministerial Sub Group comprising of representatives from Ministry of Power, Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) meet regularly to take various operational decisions to enhance supply of coal to Thermal Power Plants as well as for meeting any contingent situations relating to Power Sector including to alleviate critical coal stock position in power plants. In addition to this, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has been constituted comprising of Chairman, Railway Board; Secretary, Ministry of Coal; Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Secretary, Ministry of Power; to monitor augmentation of coal supply and power generation capacity. Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Chairperson, CEA are co-opted as Special invitees as and when required by the IMC.

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