

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:365
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010
EXPLORATION OF COAL RESERVES
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of agencies involved in exploration of coal reserves in the country;
- (b) The quantum of coal reserves explored by them during the last three years and the coal reserves out of it in which commercial production has started;
- (c) the value of coal reserves exploited during each of the above years; and
- (d) the action plan drawn by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a): The following national agencies are involved in exploration of coal in India :

- (i) Geological Survey of for Regional India (GSI) Exploration only.
- (ii) Central Mine Planning & for both Design Institute Limited Promotional (CMPDIL) (Regional) and detailed exploration
- (iii) Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL)
- (iv) Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL)
- (v) Some State Government Mainly for detailed departments like exploration Director o f Geology & Mining, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Orissa etc.

(b): As per the latest National Inventory on Indian Coal Resources (as on 01.04.2009), a total of Sixty Three coalfields have so far been explored and the total coal resources assessed over 267 Billion Tonnes. Exploration is a continuous process and most of the areas are in continuation of the existing production fields. Year-wise addition of coal resources in the last three years is furnished in the table below :-

Indian Inventory of Indian Addition of
Geological Geological Resources over
Resources as Resources previous year
on (in Million Tonnes) (in Million
Tonnes)

01.04.2007	257382	4080	
01.04.2008	264535		7153
01.04.2009	267211		2676

(source : Geological Survey of India)

(c): The value of coal reserves exploited in the last three years is furnished in the table below :-

Year Reserves Value#
exploited/Coal (Rs. in crore)
Production
(Million Tonnes)

2006-07 430.83

34836.79

2007-08	457.08	38463.71
2008-09	492.75	45537.01

Coal Controller Organization

(d): Out of a total coal bearing area of 17303 Sq. Kms., an area of 11865 Sq. Kms. has been covered under Regional Exploration and balance 5438 Sq. Kms. area is envisaged to be covered under Regional Exploration during XI and XII Five Year Plan periods. Further, enhanced efforts for bringing the resources under indicated and inferred categories to the proved category have already been initiated by enhancing the drilling capacity of CMPDIL.