

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COAL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2156  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010  
IMPORT OF COAL  
Semmalai Shri S.

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

- (a) whether any general policy has been framed to regularize the import of coal to meet the power crisis more particularly in southern States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the State Governments are permitted to import coal directly to meet their energy requirements;
- (d) if so, whether any quality check-up is being ensured by the Central Authority; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b): Considering the gap between estimated coal requirement and indigenous availability of coal, Central Electricity Authority / Ministry of Power decided that power utilities, including those utilities located in Southern States of India, may import coal. During 2009-10, a target of 28.70 Million Tonnes has been fixed, out of which 3.40 Million Tonnes is the target for import by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, Andhra Pradesh Generation Corporation Limited and Karnataka Power Corporation Limited.
- (c): Yes, Sir. Import of coal is under Open General Licence (OGL) and consumers, including State Power Utilities, are free to import coal to meet their requirements.
- (d) & (e): Power Utilities themselves have been arranging import of coal under Open General Licence and they have to devise their own mechanism for checking the quality of coal being imported by them.