

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:28

ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010

IMPORT OF COAL

Siricilla Shri Rajaiah; Tirkey Shri Manohar

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the demand for imported coal consumed by power, steel and other industries, has increased over the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the quantity and value of coal imported from various countries during each of the last three years and the current year, country-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has drawn up any action plan to increase coal production so as to make the country self-sufficient in coal production;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which it is likely to be achieved ?

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) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 28 FOR 10.11.2010.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The import of coal by various consumers in the country increased from 49.80 million tonnes during 2007-08 to 73.25 million tonnes (Provisional) during 2009-10.

(c): A statement showing the quantity and value of coal imported from various countries, country-wise and year-wise, during the last three years and also during April-June, 2010 of the current year, as obtained from Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, is attached.

(d) & (e): The following measures have been taken/are being taken by the Government/Coal India Limited to increase coal production in the country :-

(i) Coal India Limited has been asked to increase production from existing mines and expedite production from new projects.

(ii) 208 coal blocks have been allotted to different companies. State and Central Government companies are being allotted Coal mining blocks without restriction of captive mining.

(iii) Exploration for new Coal blocks has been expedited.

(iv) Procedure for project approvals has been streamlined.

(v) 142 mining projects are to be taken up during XI Plan for achieving ultimate additional production capacity of 380.22 MTs. Out of these 142 projects, 76 projects are under implementation at various stages and are likely to contribute 161.43 million tonnes by the terminal year of 11th Five Year Plan i.e. 2011-12.

(vi) Mechanization/modernization of existing mines.

(vii) Improvement in equipment utilisation.

(viii) Increasing productivity in underground and opencast mines

(ix) timely implementation of projects

(x) exploration capacity of CMPDIL being increased from existing 2 Lakh metres per annum to 4 Lakh metres per annum of drilling by

the end of 11th Plan (2011-12).

(xi) 7 high capacity underground mines have been conceived, under capacity addition

(xii) 18 abandoned mines are being revived

(f) Indian coal, by virtue of its drift origin, has high `ash content` and reserves of `low ash coking coal and low ash non-coking coal` are very limited. There is relative shortage/less availability of coking coal and low ash thermal coal and therefore consumers who prefer such coal would have to import coal to the extent the desired quality is not available indigenously.