

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:443

ANSWERED ON:23.02.2011

SHORTAGE OF COAL

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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several thermal power stations including those under National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) are facing severe shortage of coal;
- (b) if so, the coal demanded and supplied to each State/UT by Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries during each of the last three years;
- (c) whether some States have complained regarding the supply of coal with more ash content;
- (d) if so, the action taken by the Government to address the issue; and
- (e) the States who have resorted to direct purchase of coal from foreign countries to tide over the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a) & (b): Coal stocks with Power Stations at the end of January, 2011 have gone up marginally by 0.16 Million Tonnes in the last one year from 12.97 Million Tonnes as on 31.01.2010 to 13.13 Million Tonnes as on 31.01.2011.

During the process of formulation of the Annual Plan, Ministry of Coal/Planning Commission assesses the overall coal demand of the country, sector-wise, including the power utilities. Such demand is not assessed State-wise.

The details of Subsidiary-wise dispatch to Power Utilities against targets finalized in the Supply Plans as part of the Annual Plans for the last three years and the current year are furnished below:-

(figures in million tonnes)

Despatch performance to Power Utilities from Coal India Limited sources

Coal company	2007-08		2008-09	
	Target	Dispatch % materia-	Target	Dispatch % materia-
	lisation	lisation		

ECL	26.85	21.95	82	26.50	23.69	89						
BCCL	14.13	16.86	119	14.20	16.96	119						
CCL	27.78	27.44	99	29.80	28.89	97						
NCL	51.92	53.13	102	54.08	58.05	107						
WCL	33.83	36.10	107	34.15	34.96	102						
SECL	63.90	66.71	104	67.00	73.24	109MCL	59.18	57.42	97	65.48	59.81	91
NEC	0.73	0.42	57	0.20	0.21	103						
CILTotal	278.32	280.03	101	291.41	295.81	102						

Despatch performance to Power Utilities from Coal India Limited sources

Coal company 2007-08 2008-09
 Target Dispatch % materia- Target Dispatch % materia-
 lisation lisation

ECL	26.00	25.22	97	21.26	21.22	100
BCCL	17.56	16.82	96	15.58	17.63	113
CCL	31.80	28.20	89	26.92	24.65	92
NCL	58.80	61.06	104	51.60	47.32	92
WCL	34.83	34.46	99	28.21	25.35	90
SECL	73.40	74.20	101	62.82	62.65	100
MCL	69.12	57.97	84	65.01	51.21	79
NEC	0.20	0.10	50	0.18	0.27	151
CIL Total	311.71	298.03	96	271.58	250.30	92

The details of State-wise dispatch of coal and coal products to Power Utilities during last three years are as under:

State-wise Despatch of Coal and Coal Products to Power Utilities

(in Million Tonnes)

State 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11
 (April,2010- January,2011)
 (Provisional)

Andhra Pradesh	13.24	13.55	10.35	9.34
Bihar	4.81	7.41	9.44	8.72
Chattisgarh	20.44	25.48	30.48	27.53
Delhi	5.66	5.85	5.12	3.02
Gujarat	18.19	18.89	18.19	15.26
Haryana	8.01	9.51	10.50	10.83
Jharkhand	6.48	6.92	7.58	5.93
Karnataka	4.07	4.52	3.34	2.63
Madhya Pradesh	29.34	31.80	32.03	24.83
Maharashtra	35.19	35.44	35.09	27.14
Orissa	23.56	22.32	23.47	17.61
Punjab	7.21	5.94	5.47	3.94
Rajasthan	13.02	13.81	13.64	12.23
Tamil Nadu	13.49	13.53	12.97	10.31
Uttar Pradesh	51.83	52.39	52.40	44.93
West Bengal	25.50	28.47	27.97	26.06
Total	280.04	295.81	298.03	250.31

(c) & (d): A few complaints have been received by the coal companies regarding the quality and size of coal being supplied by them. The coal companies have initiated, inter- alia, the following steps to improve the quality of coal :

- (i) selective mining of bands of > 1 meter thickness
- (ii) appropriate positioning of Over Burden (OB) and coal benches to avoid contamination.
- (iii) scrapping / cleaning of coal benches before blasting
- (iv) installation of metal detectors / magnetic separators over running conveyors before coal loading
- (v) all the major projects having high capacity coal handling plants to dispatch sized and uniform quality of coal to suit the requirement of the consumers
- (vi) establishment of well equipped laboratories at all the projects for regular quality assessment.
- (vii) arrangement for joint sampling with consumers, based on which consumers are provided with the facility of adjustment of payment against coal value.
- (viii) arranging awareness programmes / imparting training to the personnel involved in production of coal regarding importance of coal quality and need to improve and maintain the same during mining operations.

(ix) shale picking, if any, at mine face stocks, sidings and from the wagons.

(x) beneficiation of non-coking coal in washeries planned for a total throughput capacity of about 111.10 Million Tonnes per year on "Build Operate & Maintain (BOM)" basis in addition to the existing throughput capacity of 17.20 Million Tonnes per year.

(e): Based on the targets fixed by Ministry of Power for import of coal by the power utilities for the year 2010-11, the power utilities of Haryana, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, West Bengal and NTPC have made direct arrangements for import of coal.