

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:45
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2011
SUPPLY OF COAL TO POWER COMPANIES
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Shantha J.

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some of the power companies are facing shortage of coal;
- (b) if so, the details of coal demanded and supplied to the power companies during the last three years, company-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken for providing sufficient quantity of coal to the power companies;
- (d) whether coal is also being imported for power plants; and
- (e) if so, the details of coal imported from different countries alongwith the funds spent thereon during the last three years, country-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 45 for 3.8.2011

(a):: By and large, there is no shortage of coal at the power stations. On the contrary, coal stock with power stations has increased from 11.63 Million Tonnes as on 28.7.2010 to 13.416 Million Tonnes as on 28.7.2011.

(b): During the process of formulation of Annual Plan, Planning Commission assesses the overall demand of the country, coal consuming sector-wise. Such demand is not assessed consumer-wise and based on such assessed demand, company-wise coal supply plan is formulated by the Ministry of Coal for various sectors including Power Utility sector.

By and large, CIL has been dispatching coal as per targets fixed in the supply plan finalized as part of the Annual Plan. During the last three years, dispatches to Power Utilities have been 102%, 96% and 91% of the targets respectively. In the current year upto June 2011, dispatch is 94% of the target. Despatches could have been better but for the frequent law and order problems in CCL and MCL and constraints of wagon availability in comparison to indents in certain coal fields in the 3rd and 4th quarter of the previous year. Despatch performance of ECL was also affected due to assembly elections, heavy rains and accidents.

The details of Subsidiary-wise dispatch to Power Utility Sector during the last three years and the current year are given at Annexure-I.

(c): The coal supply position to power utilities is regularly monitored, inter-alia, in the Ministry of Coal as well as in the Cabinet Secretariat. For the year 2011-12, against the estimated coal demand of 477 Million Tonnes for the power plants, the availability of indigenous coal has been estimated at 405 Million Tonnes, leaving a shortfall of 72 Million Tonnes. To bridge this gap, power utilities have been advised by Ministry of Power to import 35 Million Tonnes of coal, considered equivalent to about 52 MT of indigenous coal. In addition, 20 Million Tonnes of coal is to be imported by thermal power stations designed on imported coal.

(d): Coal is under Open General License (OGL) and the power utilities import coal themselves to meet their requirements.

(e): Details of imports of thermal coal by power utilities are not maintained separately. However, the total coal import by various consumers, including the power utilities, during the last three years and the value involved, country-wise, is given at Annexure-II.