

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3296
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2009
TRANSPORTATION OF COAL
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has been transporting coal containing high percent of ash contents over long distances;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to adopt efficient and environmentally better technology for coal beneficiation?

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): Coal India Limited is the major supplier of coal to power utilities located all over the country. The ash content of overall coal supplies by Coal India Limited during 2008-09 had been 32.20% on annualized average basis which is within the norms of 34% ash percentage stipulated by Ministry of Environment and Forests in respect of power stations situated near urban critically polluted and sensitive areas and also situated more than 1000 Kms from coal sources.

Most of high ash content coal produced by the subsidiary coal companies of Coal India Limited is consumed at pit-head power stations without requiring transportation by Indian Railway system over long distances.

(c): Coal India Limited has been operating coal washeries for beneficiation of coal over a long period. At present 17 coal washeries are in operation by Coal India Limited. Many of these washeries of CIL are old and modernization/renovation of these washeries with up-to-date and environment-friendly technologies are in progress. Further Coal India Limited (CIL) has decided to set up 19 new washeries for supply of environment-friendly washed coal to all the non pit-head consumers.