

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:434
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2009
POWER GENERATION
Mitra Shri Somendra Nath

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government/Central Electricity Authority has taken note of dwindling coal stocks available with the Central and State power utilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are reports of power generation being affected/interrupted on account of supply of inferior, non-gradable including over sized coal by the Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries;
- (d) if so, the corrective steps taken in the matter; and
- (e) the details of mechanism available to ensure quality supply of coal to the thermal utilities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER(SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

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

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.434 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 18-12-2009 REGARDING POWER GENERATION.

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The coal stock position of 78 central and State Utility thermal power stations in the country is monitored by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on a daily basis. The overall coal stock in the thermal power stations, which was 11.291 Million Tonne (MT) as on 01-04-2009, came down to a level of 8.842 Million Tonne on 19-10-2009. The coal stock has, however, increased to 11.09 Million Tonne on 14-12-2009.

(c): By and large, power generation gets marginally affected/interrupted on account of poor quality of coal. However, problems such as increase in coal consumption, unloading problems, damage to coal handling plant and delays in release of railway rakes resulting in demurrage charges are experienced in the thermal power plants due to poor coal quality.

Loss of electricity generation has predominantly been experienced in the thermal power stations on account of coal shortage. As per reports from power utilities, generation loss to the tune of 9.38 Billion kWh has been experienced during the year 2009-10 (up to November, 2009) due to coal shortage.

(d) & (e): The Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) provides a mechanism to ensure quality supply of coal to Power Utilities and it also lays down the action(s) to be taken in case quality norms are not met. There is also a provision for joint sampling of coal by the coal company and the power plant at the loading end.