

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6074

ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015

QUALITY OF COAL

Patel Smt. Jayshreeben

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the ash content in coal produced in the country is more than that produced globally, if so the details thereof ;
- (b) whether there is any mechanism to check and compare as contents in Indian coal vis-a-vis imported coal, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government / Coal India Limited to improve the quality of Indian coal ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) Yes, ash content in coal produced in the country is more than that produced globally. Domestic coal of different categories / composition/ qualities are being produced by Coal India Ltd. In non-coking coal, grading is based on Gross Heat content. In coking coal, grading is based on ash percentage. In semi coking coal & weakly coking coal, grading is based on ash and moisture percentage. The details are given below;

A) NON-COKING COAL

COAL GRADES AND CORRESPONDING GCV RANGE

GRADE OF COAL GCV RANGE IN KILO CALORIES / KILOGRAM

G1	EXCEEDING	7000		
G2	EXCEEDING	6700	AND NOT EXCEEDING	7000
G3	EXCEEDING	6400	AND NOT EXCEEDING	6700
G4	EXCEEDING	6100	AND NOT EXCEEDING	6400
G5	EXCEEDING	5800	AND NOT EXCEEDING	6100
G6	EXCEEDING	5500	AND NOT EXCEEDING	5800
G7	EXCEEDING	5200	AND NOT EXCEEDING	5500
G8	EXCEEDING	4900	AND NOT EXCEEDING	5200
G9	EXCEEDING	4600	AND NOT EXCEEDING	4900
G10	EXCEEDING	4300	AND NOT EXCEEDING	4600
G11	EXCEEDING	4000	AND NOT EXCEEDING	4300
G12	EXCEEDING	3700	AND NOT EXCEEDING	4000
G13	EXCEEDING	3400	AND NOT EXCEEDING	3700
G14	EXCEEDING	3100	AND NOT EXCEEDING	3400
G15	EXCEEDING	2800	AND NOT EXCEEDING	3100
G16	EXCEEDING	2500	AND NOT EXCEEDING	2800
G17	EXCEEDING	2200	AND NOT EXCEEDING	2500

B) COKING COAL

GRADE ASH CONTENT (%)

STEEL. I p to 15

STEEL. II Exceeding 15 & up to 18

WASHERY. I Exceeding 18 & up to 21

WASHERY. II Exceeding 21 & up to 24

WASHERY. III Exceeding 24 & up to 28

WASHERY. IV Exceeding 28 & up to 35

C) SEMI COKING & WEAKLY COKING COAL

GRADE ASH + MOISTURE CONTENT (%)

SEMI COKING - I Not Exceeding 19 %

SEMI COKING - II Exceeding 19% but not exceeding 24%

The ash percentage of Imported coal as popularly traded from Indonesia (as per Argus ICI coal index specifications) varies between 4 to 12%. Whereas for the specification of coal traded from South Africa (Richards Bay) ash content is in the ranges of 8 to 16%.

(b): For quality check, Coal India Limited (CIL) has mechanism for sampling & analysis of coal in well equipped laboratories. In this regard, CIL has adopted latest international technologies like testing of coal with automatic Bomb Calorimeters, ash & volatile matter analyzers etc.

(c): CIL has adopted the following steps to improve the quality of coal:-

i) Selective mining by Surface Miner in opencast mine and Continuous Miner in underground mine for elimination of bands wherever necessary /feasible.

ii) Appropriate positioning of overburdenand 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) Crushing arrangement are also provided for supply of sized coal for better consumers satisfaction.

vi) 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.

vii) Participation of consumer representative in joint sampling/ and / or 3rd. party sampling and analysis of coal with consumers, based on which consumers are provided with the facility of adjustment of payment against coal value.

viii) Arrangement for 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) Washing of Coal is being done for decreasing ash content of coal.