

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5247
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014
STUDY ABOUT STOCK OF LIGNITE
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey was conducted by the Union Government in coordination with State Government about the lignite reserves in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether any lignite fields/mines were identified in Karnataka through this process during the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the target set by the Union Government for mining of lignite for the next three years, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): The coal and lignite exploration under Promotional Exploration Scheme funded by Ministry of Coal, Govt. of India as conducted in various states. The Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) Committee-V: Energy Minerals & Resources identifies the target areas in association with Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL) for coal areas and Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd. (NLC) for lignite areas. The concerned State Directorate of Geology & Mining Department are involved in the process. The main exploration agencies viz. Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Mineral Exploration Corporation (MECL) carry out the exploration for Coal and Lignite in the target areas identified by the Committee-V.

In respect of lignite, the State Directorates of Geology and Mining of Govt. of Tamilnadu, Rajasthan and Gujarat are invited to participate in the review meetings to review the exploration activities and share their views.

(b): The Lignite reserves assessed as a result of the lignite exploration carried out in different states under the Promotional Exploration Scheme as well as exploration by NLC and State Directorates of Geology & Mining as on 1.4.2014 is furnished below:

Sl. No.	State	Total
	(in million tonnes)	
1.	Puducherry	416.61
2.	Tamilnadu	34347.71
3.	Rajasthan	5720.35
4.	Gujarat	2722.05
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	27.55
6.	Kerala	9.65
7.	West Bengal	2.77
	Total	43246.69

(c): No lignite fields/mines were identified in Karnataka. Based on the reported occurrences of carbonaceous matter near Udipi area, Karnataka, lignite exploration under Promotional Scheme was carried out during December 2005 to March 2006 in coastal areas of Udipi involving 438.50 Meters in 24 boreholes. However, only very thin and patchy carbonaceous clay/carb matter were intersected in some of the boreholes and hence reserve estimation could not be done.

(d): As per the report of the Working Group on Coal & Lignite for formulation of XII plan period, the target fixed for mining of lignite for the next three years, State-Wise is furnished below:

State Lignite production Target (Million Tonnes)
2014-15 2015-16 2016-17

Tamilnadu	24.23	25.08	27.20
Gujarat	18.53	20.00	21.60
Rajasthan	15.09	17.67	19.80
Total	57.85	62.75	68.60