

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.*344
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.07.2019**

Coal Supplies to Power Plants

***344. DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:
SHRI UNMESH BHAYYASAHEB PATIL:**

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken up serious measures to improve coal supplies to power plants after hike in electricity prices at energy exchanges;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has decided to use dedicated rail transportation for coal movements; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES

(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

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

Statement, referred to in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No.344 for answer on 17.07.2019, asked by DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL and SHRI UNMESH BHAYYASAHEB PATIL:

(a) & (b): A number of important steps have been taken by the Government to augment and monitor coal dispatches to the power houses. Some of the steps taken are as under:

- i. The power plants in close vicinity of coal fields have been advised to move coal through road mode.
- ii. The power plants have been advised to move coal through road-cum-rail mode by utilizing of Goods shed sidings of Railways.
- iii. Optimal utilization of the captive modes of transport like, MGR, Belts, Ropes to move coal to the concerned power plants.
- iv. Priority is given to supply of coal to Power plants through rail mode.
- v. Coal supplies to Power sector are monitored regularly by an Inter-Ministerial Sub Group, comprising representatives from the Ministries of Power, Coal, Railways and Shipping, the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal India Limited (CIL) etc. This Sub Group has been meeting periodically, at times twice every week, in order to take various operational decisions for meeting any contingent situations relating to Power Sector including critical coal stock position for power plants.
- vi. A committee, comprising of the Secretary (Coal), the Secretary (Power) and Member (Traffic), Railway Board, reviews the coal transportation and supply on a regular basis.

The coal stock at Thermal Power Plants end increased from 10.09 Million Tonnes (MT) on 31.10.2018 to 30.95 MT on 31.03.2019. On account of the above measures and enhanced coal supply to TPPs, the average price of power in the spot exchange has reduced considerably.

(c) & (d): Highest priority is accorded by the Indian Railways to transportation of coal, especially coal for power plants. In 2018-19, all commodities loading by the Indian Railways was 1223.29 MT, out of which coal loading was 605.82 MT, which is almost 50%.
