

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF STEEL
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 12.11.2010
ANSWERED ON
AVAILABILITY OF COKING COAL .

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Shri Dhiraj Prasad Sahu

Will the Minister of COALCOALCOALCOALCOALSTEEL be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether the availability of coking coal from domestic sources is sufficient to fulfil the requirement of reserved consumption of steel plants in the country;
- (b) if not, the alternative arrangement made by Government to bring metallurgical coal and thermal coal from foreign countries for steel plants in the country;
- (c) whether any indenture has been made to procure coal mines so that uninhibited supply of coking coal being used in steel plants may be ensured; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL

(SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP)

(a) No, Sir. Due to limited production of coking coal in the country and its low quality, domestic steel industry has to depend upon imported coking coal to fulfill its requirement. During 2009-10, indigenous raw coking coal supply to steel and coke oven units was about 16.48 million tonnes. To fulfill the remaining requirement of coking coal, about 23.47 million tonnes of coking coal was imported by steel units during 2009-10. Besides, about 2.2 million tonnes of met coke was also imported.

(Source: Website of Ministry of Coal)

(b) to (d): Steel companies import coking coal from various countries to fulfill their requirements on commercial basis. The Government is also encouraging the formation of joint ventures between steel companies to acquire coking coal assets abroad. A Special Purpose Vehicle namely International Coal Ventures Limited (ICVL) with participation of Coal India Limited, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) and NMDC Limited has been formed for acquisition of coal assets abroad.