

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3518
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03/04/2017

Decrease in coal demand by power plants

3518. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in January, 2017 India's coal imports declined by 22 per cent to 14 million tonnes, due to decrease in demand from power generating stations; and
- (b) if so, what corrective measures Government is taking to shore up demand for coal by thermal power stations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR COAL, POWER, NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)&(b): As per Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S) during January, 2017 coal imports declined by 25.97% to 14.09 Million Tonnes (MT) as compared to 19.03 MT during the corresponding month of previous year i.e. January, 2016. However, coal based power generation has grown by 4.5% in January, 2017 to 79.33 Billion Units as compared to 75.78 Billion Units in January, 2016. This is largely due to fact that power plants have preferred to consume more coal from their stock. Coal stock at TPPs end has depleted to the level of 22.21 MT at the end of January, 2017 from the level of 38.87 MT at the end of March 2016. During the same period last year, there had been accretion in stock from 26.1 MT as on 31.03.2015 to 34.7 MT as on 31.01.2016. Further, with enhanced availability of domestic coal, the import of coal by power plants required for blending with domestic coal has been declining.

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