

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF POWER

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3603**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.04.2017

**MISMATCH IN COAL DISTRIBUTION TO POWER PLANTS**

3603. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH:

Will the Minister of **POWER**  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some efficient power stations are facing coal shortage at present while plants with low utilization are possessing abundant fuel;
- (b) whether under the new norms, the landed cost of power from the private power station should be lower than the variable cost of generation of the power generating plant of the State;
- (c) whether in cases where Railways find that transfer of coal to a private power station is not feasible, then that plant would not be eligible to participate in bidding; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**A N S W E R**

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

( SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL )

**(a) :** With enhanced availability of domestic coal in the country, the coal stock position in the Thermal Power Plants (TPP), monitored by Central Electricity Authority (CEA), has increased. As on 27.03.2017, TPPs were having a total stock of 27.7 Million Tonnes, sufficient to operate for 19 days. Further, as on 27.03.2017, only one TPP is having critical coal stock position.

**(b) :** There are no such norms. However, Govt. of India has notified, on 20.02.2017, guidelines for allowing flexibility in utilisation of domestic coal for Independent Power Producers (IPPs) also to reduce the cost of power generation.

**(c) & (d) :** As per the methodology, a reference is to be made to the Ministry of Railways regarding operational feasibility of the rail transportation of coal to the IPPs after shortlisting in the Request for Qualification stage. Based on the operational considerations, Ministry of Railways is to convey their consent. The IPP, where the transfer of coal is not feasible as conveyed by the Railways, would not be eligible to participate in Request for Proposal stage.

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