

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1179
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.07.2018**

Coal shortages leading to critical situation of power plants

1179. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether all power plants in the country, across States, are in a critical situation due to coal shortages;

(b) whether Ministry has received any specific requests from the Ministry of Power in diverting coal supplies to independent power producers, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the share of coal supply to private and public power plants in the country during this shortage period of coal supplies;

(d) whether any State Government has started importing coal from neighbouring countries, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the alternative methods adopted by them to tackle with the situation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COAL & FINANCE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): There is no shortage of coal, by and large, for the power sector. In the first quarter 2018-19, Coal India Limited (CIL) dispatched a record quantity of 122.2 MT coal to Power sector, thereby achieving a growth of 14.8% over and above the last year dispatch during the same period. Growth in dispatch of coal to Power sector has helped coal based generation to achieve positive growth of 5.3% as compared to same period of last year and 101.3% of the programme in the 1st quarter of 2018-19 as per CEA Generation report for June 2018. This is despite the fact that generation from imported coal based plants was 66% of the programme in the first quarter of 2018-19. Similarly, in 2017-18 generation from imported coal based plants was 85% of the programme. This shows that shortfall in generation from imported coal based plants was also compensated by increased power generation from the power plants based on domestic coal.

(b): This Ministry has not received any specific requests from Ministry of Power for diverting coal supplies to independent power producers.

(c): The coal supply to power plants in the country depends upon the installed capacity of public and private sector plants and the scheduling of power from these plants based on Merit Order Dispatch. The total coal supply to private and public power plants from Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) in the country during 2017-18 and 2018-19 (till June 2018) is as under:

(Figure in M.T)

Coal Supply	CIL		SCCL	
	2017-18	2018-19* (Till June 2018)	2017-18	2018-19* (Till June 2018)
Public Power Plants	345.17	92.20	53.327	13.835
Private Power Plants	77.73	23.43	0.145	0.018
Total	422.90	115.63	53.472	13.853

***Provisional**

(d & e): Coal and coke being under Open General License as per import policy of the Government, is imported by various traders and consuming industries as per their requirements. However, as reported by CEA, the coal imported by State power utilities during April, 2018 to June, 2018 was 2.7126 MT
