

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 658
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2019**

Pending coal projects

658. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of pending coal projects with Coal India Ltd. (CIL) and NLC India Ltd., State-wise, since 2015;
- (b) the total cost of the pending coal projects across the country since 2014 till January, 2019;
- (c) the steps Ministry has undertaken to expedite the pending projects; and
- (d) how much coal has been imported vis-a-vis the coal mined in the country since 2014 and the cost of the coal purchased, per tonne, every year, since 2014?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COAL, FINANCE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (c): There is no pending coal project lying with Coal India Limited and NLC India Limited.

(d) : The details of production of coal, Import of Coal and value during the last four years i.e. 2014-15 to 2017-18 and current year up to December, 2018 is as under:

YEARS	ALL INDIA COAL PRODUCTION	IMPORT OF COAL	
	Qty (Million Tonnes)	Qty (Million Tonnes)	Value (Million Rupees)
2014-15	609.18	217.78	1045067
2015-16	639.23	203.95	860338
2016-17	657.87	190.95	1002314
2017-18	676.48	208.27	1384770
2018-19	499.40 (UPTO Dec-2018)	176.65 (UPTO DEC-2018)	1382040 (UPTO DEC-2018)

As per the current import policy, coal is kept under Open General License (OGL) and consumers are free to import coal from the source of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty.

The imported coal quantity of 2017-18 at 208.27 MT is less than the imported quantity of 2014-15 which stood at 217.78 MT even as power generation and industrial activities grew substantially after 2014-15.

The entire demand of coal is not met from domestic production as the supply of high quality coal/ coking coal (low-ash-coal) in the country is limited and thus no option is left but to resort to import of coking coal.

Therefore, coking coal will continue to be imported as there is limited availability of coking coal in the country. Further, power plants designed on imported coal will also continue to import coal.
