

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF POWER  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO.97**  
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2022

**POWER SUPPLY SHORTAGE IN THE COUNTRY**

**97     SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA:**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that there is a looming coal crisis and power shortage in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the present situation and demand versus supply matrix of coal supplies in the country;
- (d) the steps taken by Government to overcome coal shortage; and
- (e) the instructions /suggestions made to the States to overcome coal shortage?

**A N S W E R**

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

**(a) to (e) :** A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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## STATEMENT

### STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.97 ANSWERED IN THE RAJYA SABHA ON 26.07.2022 REGARDING POWER SUPPLY SHORTAGE IN THE COUNTRY

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**(a) & (b):** The coal stock available with the thermal power plants, including import, is monitored by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on daily basis. As on 31.03.2022, the coal stock was 25.6 Million Tonnes (MT) and increased to 28.4 MT as on 15.07.2022, which is about 50% of the normative coal stock required to be maintained by the Thermal power plants (TPPs). The stock available as on 15.07.2022 is sufficient to run these power plants for an average of 10 days at 85% Plant load factor (PLF).

Further, during 2022-23 (Apr-June), against the requirement of 404.76 Billion Units (BU), the energy supplied was 400.65 BU. There was a shortage of 1% of energy requirement. Gap is generally on account of factors other than inadequacy of power availability in the country such as constraints in distribution network, financial constraints, commercial reasons, forced outage of generating units etc.

**(c) :** The month-wise details of coal receipt and coal consumption are provided as under:

| Month                   | Receipt per day (TT/day) | Consumption per day (TT/day) | Gap between supply and demand (TT/day) |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Apr-22                  | 2108                     | 2236                         | -127                                   |
| May-22                  | 2181                     | 2126                         | 55                                     |
| Jun-22                  | 2244                     | 2154                         | 90                                     |
| July, 2022 ( till 15th) | 2067                     | 1957                         | 110                                    |

**(d) & (e):** Government has taken the following steps to overcome coal supplies' shortages:

- (i) An Inter-Ministerial Sub Group comprising of representatives from Ministry of Power, Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) meet regularly to take various operational decisions to enhance supply of coal to thermal power plants as well as for meeting any contingent situations relating to Power Sector including to alleviate critical coal stock position in power plants.
- (ii) As per the decision taken in the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary on Augmentation of coal supply and power generation capacity, a Secretary level Inter Ministerial committee has been set up to ensure that the medium and long term requirements of coal are met. The IMC comprises of Chairman Railway Board, Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change as members and Secretary, Ministry of Power as convenor.

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- (iii) Considering high demand of domestic coal in the thermal power plants, Ministry of Power on 28.04.2022 issued advisory to State Sector and Independent Power Producer (IPP) plants to import coal for blending @10% of their requirement to ensure minimum required coal stock before the onset of monsoon, to ensure availability of adequate stock in the power plants which may cater to their demand during monsoon period when the domestic supply of coal reduces.
- (iv) CIL has allocated about 16 MT coal on Road cum Rail (RCR) mode to TPPs.
- (v) Railways has issued order to give preference to Power Sector for loading of coal from Good Shed Siding (GSS) and Private Washery (PW).
- (vi) Ministry of Power has advised States, from time to time, to lift coal offered by CIL on RCR mode and also achieve production target from their Captive mines.

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