

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1311
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2022

Excess import of coal leading to stockpiling

1311. DR. AMAR PATNAIK:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of expedited import of coal to avoid a possible fuel crisis this year;
- (b) the year-wise data on the total quantity of coal reserves in the country as on December 2022;
- (c) the details of genecos that have retracted their requests for importing coal with Coal India Ltd.;
- (d) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd., the country's biggest coal miner, is finding it tough to get buyers for its imported coal;
- (e) if so, whether Government is considering policy reforms including but not restricted to redistribution of coal import;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a): Considering the increasing electricity demand and for building up of coal stock at power plants before onset of monsoon, Ministry of Power (MoP) on 28.04.2022 advised power plants to import coal for blending purpose to meet 10% of their coal requirement. Subsequently, after reviewing the coal stock position, MoP on 01.08.2022 decided that the States/IPPs and Ministry of Coal may decide the blending percentage after assessing the availability of domestic coal supplies. During the current year 2022-23 (April-October), about 25.4 MT coal has been imported for blending purpose.

(b): The year-wise data of coal reserves in the country for the last three years are as follows:

Sl. No.	Year	Resource in million tonne
1	As on 01.04.2020	344020.84
2	As on 01.04.2021	352125.97
3	As on 01.04.2022	361411.46

(c): Amongst State GENCOs, Madhya Pradesh Power Generating Company Ltd. has expressed its unwillingness for taking imported coal. Other consumers namely Jhabua Power Ltd, Lanco Anpara C, Lalitpur Power Generating Company Ltd and Bajaj Energy Ltd have also expressed similar unwillingness.

(d)to(g): Orders for supply of imported coal are being placed by CIL based on the 'Firm Orders' and the advance payment by various Power Generating Companies. So far, 3.58 lakh tonne of coal have been imported by CIL on behalf of Power Generating Companies and delivered. As such there is no such situation for imported coal being not lifted by Power Generating Companies.
