

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 190
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2023**

Shortage of coal in country

***190 Shri Raghav Chadha:**

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of coal in the country in the last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether this shortage in coal has any impact on the supply of power, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by Government so that the country does not face any shortage of coal; and
- (d) whether Government is planning to increase the storage of coal, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d):- A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 190 for answer on 07.08.2023 asked by Shri Raghav Chadha:

(a) & (b): There is adequate availability of coal in the country. The country has witnessed highest ever coal production in the year 2022-23. The all India coal production in the year 2020-21, 2021-22 & 2022-23 was 716.08 Million Tonne (MT), 778.21 MT and 893.19 MT (provisional) respectively.

(c): Most of the requirement of coal in the country is met through indigenous production / supply. The focus of the Government is on increasing the domestic production of coal. The steps taken by the Government to make the country self-sufficient in the production of coal are as under:

- i. Regular reviews by Ministry of Coal to expedite the development of coal blocks.
- ii. Enactment of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act, 2021 for enabling captive mines owners (other than atomic minerals) to sell up to 50% of their annual mineral (including coal) production in the open market after meeting the requirement of the end use plant linked with the mine in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government on payment of such additional amount.
- iii. Single Window Clearance portal for the coal sector to speed up the operationalization of coal mines.
- iv. Project Monitoring Unit for hand-holding of coal block allottees for obtaining various approvals / clearances for early operationalization of coal mines.
- v. Auction of commercial mining on revenue sharing basis launched in 2020. Under commercial mining scheme, rebate of 50 % on final offer would be allowed for the quantity of coal produced earlier than scheduled date of production. Also, incentives on coal gasification or liquefaction (rebate of 50 % on final offer) have been granted.
- vi. Coal India Limited is adopting Mass Production Technologies (MPT) in its Underground (UG) mines, mainly Continuous Miners (CMs), wherever feasible. Coal India Limited has also envisaged working large numbers of Highwalls (HW) mines in view of the availability of Abandoned / Discontinued mines. Coal India Limited is also planning large capacity UG mines wherever feasible.
- vii. In its Opencast (OC) mines, Coal India Limited already has State-of-the-Art technology in its high capacity Excavators, Dumpers and Surface Miners. Digitization is being tried on pilot scale in 7 of its mega mines and shall be replicated further.
- viii. SCCL has planned to produce 75 MT by 2023-24 from the present level of 67 MT. Regular liasioning is being undertaken for grounding of new projects. In addition, progress of activities of new projects and operations of existing projects is being regularly monitored.

(d): Adequate storage facilities for extracted coal are available in the mines and new coal storage space is created as and when required.