

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1639
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023

Promotion of coal production

1639 Shri Sant Balbir Singh:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the steps taken by Government to boost production of coal in the country and with reasonable precautions;
- (b) whether the country has exported coal to other countries, if so, the details thereof, till date; and
- (c) the details of the main markets for Indian coal and its potential for the same in the State of Punjab?

ANSWER

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

(a): The following steps have been taken by the Government to boost production of coal in the country with reasonable precautions:

- i. Coal mine is governed by the statute, i.e. Mines Act, 1952, Mine Rules, regulations (Coal Mine Regulations- 2017), guidelines, Byelaws & Standing Order framed thereunder and administered by Directorate General Of Mines Safety (DGMS) by way of inspections, investigation of accidents and awareness activities.

Apart from compliance of the statutory provisions, Preparation and implementation of Site Specific Risk Assessment based Safety Management Plans (SMPs), Preparation and implementation of Principal Hazards Management Plans (PHMPs), Formulation and compliance of Site-specific Risk Assessment based Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Conducting Safety Audit of mines, Training on Mine Safety, Inspection are undertaken to boost production with reasonable precautions.

- ii. Regular reviews by Ministry of Coal to expedite the development of coal blocks.
- iii. 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.

- iv. Single Window Clearance portal for the coal sector to speed up the operationalization of coal mines.
- v. Project Monitoring Unit for hand-holding of coal block allottees for obtaining various approvals / clearances for early operationalization of coal mines.
- vi. 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.
- vii. Terms and conditions of commercial coal mining are very liberal with no restriction on utilization of coal, allowing new companies to participate in the bidding process, reduced upfront amount, adjustment of upfront amount against monthly payment, liberal efficiency parameters to encourage flexibility to operationalize the coal mines, transparent bidding process, 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) through automatic route and revenue sharing model based on the National Coal Index.

In addition to above, coal companies have also taken following steps to increase the domestic coal production.

- i. Coal India Limited (CIL) has identified and initiated actions for fulfilling all the resources required like Environment Clearance / Forest Clearance, land acquisition, evacuation infrastructures such as mechanized loading through Coal Handling Plant (CHP) / SILO, Rail Projects etc. CIL is in constant endeavour to enhance its coal production through expansion of mines (brownfield projects), opening of new mines (greenfield projects), mechanization and modernization of its mines, both Underground (UG) & Opencast (OC). In its UG mines, CIL is adopting Mass Production Technologies (MPT), mainly with Continuous Miners (CMs), wherever feasible. CIL has also planned Highwalls (HW) mines. In its OC mines, CIL already has State-of-the- Art technology in its high capacity Excavators, Dumpers and Surface Miners.
- ii. Regular liaison is being undertaken by Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) for grounding of new projects and operation of existing projects. SCCL has initiated action for developing infrastructure for evacuation of coal like CHPs, Crushers, Mobile Crushers, Pre-weigh-bins etc.

(b): Coal exports by the country during the last three years and the current year (upto September, 2023) is as under:

{Figure in Million Tonne (MT)}

Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (Upto September, 2023)
Exports	2.945	1.316	1.163*	0.578*

* Provisional

(c): Most of the coal produced in the country is consumed domestically. The major coal consuming sectors in the country are Power (including captive power production), Steel, Cement, Sponge-Iron and Fertilizer.

CIL has supplied 20.9 MT to Power Sector consumers and 0.6 MT to Non-Power Sector consumers in the State of Punjab, totaling to about 21.5 MT of supplies during the FY 2022-23.
