GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COAL RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 677 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2024

Promotion of production of coal

677 # Ms. Kavita Patidar:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state: -

- (a) the details of the key initiatives taken by Government to boost production of coal in the country;
- (b) whether the country has exported coal to other countries, the details of such exports till date; and
- (c) the details of the primary markets for Indian coal?

ANSWER MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

- (a): The key initiatives taken by the Government to boost the domestic 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 [MMDR Act] 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 has been 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. 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 the above, coal companies have also taken the following steps to increase the domestic coal production:

- i. Coal India Limited (CIL) has adopted a number of measures to increase coal production. In its Underground (UG) mines, CIL is adopting Mass Production Technologies (MPT), mainly with Continuous Miners (CMs), wherever feasible. CIL has also planned Highwalls (HW) mines in view of the availability of Abandoned/ Discontinued mine. CIL is also planning large capacity UG mines wherever feasible. In its Opencast (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 Coal Handling Plants (CHPs), Crushers, Mobile Crushers, Pre-weigh-bins etc.

(b): Coal exports by the country during the last five years and the current year (upto September, 2024) is as under:

	(Figures in Million Tonne)
Year	Coal export quantity
2019-20	1.030
2020-21	2.945
2021-22	1.316
2022-23	1.166
2023-24	1.545
2024-25 (upto September, 2024) (Provisional)	0.956

(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 Fertilizers.
