GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COAL RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 62 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.07.2025

Growth in coal production

62 Dr. Medha Vishram Kulkarni: Dr. Anil Sukhdeorao Bonde: Shri Harsh Mahajan: Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita:

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

- (a) the total volume of coal production in FY 2024-25, and its comparison with previous fiscal year; and
- (b) the initiatives taken by Government to reduce dependency on imports?

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

- (a): The all India coal production in the year 2024-2025 was 1047.50 Million Tonnes (MT) (provisional) in comparison to 997.826 MT in the year 2023-2024.
- **(b):** Most of the requirement of coal in the country is met through indigenous production and supply. The focus of the Government is on increasing the domestic production of coal and eliminating non-essential import of coal in the country. The following comprehensive steps have been taken by the Government to reduce dependency on coal imports:
 - i. The Annual Contracted Quantity (ACQ) has been increased upto 100% of the normative requirement, in the cases where the ACQ was either reduced to 90% of normative requirement (non-coastal) or where the ACQ was reduced to 70% of normative requirement (coastal power plants). Increase in the ACQ would result in more domestic coal supplies, thereby, reducing the import dependency.
 - ii. Through Amendment to the Non-Regulated Sector (NRS) linkage auction policy introduced in 2020, the tenure of coking coal linkages in the NRS linkage auction has been revised for a period upto 30 years. Increase in tenure of the coking coal linkages in the NRS linkage auction for a period upto 30 years is expected to have a positive impact towards coal import substitution.
- iii. Government has decided in 2022 that the coal to meet full Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) requirement of all the existing linkage holders of Power Sector shall be made available by the coal companies irrespective of the trigger level and ACQ levels. This decision of the Government of meeting the full PPA requirement of the linkage holders of the Power Sector is also expected to reduce dependence on the imports.
- iv. Imported Coal Based (ICB) Plants have been allowed to secure coal under the Revised SHAKTI Policy, 2025. The coal availability for ICB Plants under the Revised SHAKTI Policy is also expected to reduce dependence of these ICB plants on imported coal.

- v. Existing Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) holders have been allowed to secure coal under the Revised SHAKTI Policy, 2025 after procuring 100% of the ACQ coal under existing FSA. Coal availability beyond the ACQ to the existing FSA holders will benefit the power producers to meet the full requirement of the power plants.
- vi. An Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) was constituted in the Ministry of Coal on 29.05.2020 for the purpose of coal import substitution. On the directions of the IMC, an Import Data System has been developed by the Ministry of Coal to enable the Ministry to track imports of coal. Efforts are being made on a continuous basis to ensure more domestic supplies of coal. Thus, the entire substitutable imported coal should be met by the country and no import other than the very essential should happen. A Strategy Paper on Coal Import Substitution has been released.
- vii. A new sub-sector 'Steel using Coking coal through WDO route' has been created in March, 2024 under the NRS linkage auctions which shall lead to increase in the domestic coking coal consumption and shall increase the availability of washed coking coal in the country, thereby, reducing coking coal imports.
- viii. Coking Coal Mission has been launched to enhance coking coal supply to the Steel Sector to reduce imports of coking coal. Initiatives have been taken to enhance coking coal production.
