

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 214
ANSWERED ON 02.02.2026

DECLINE IN COAL'S SHARE IN ENERGY

214. SHRI S.R. SIVALINGAM:

Will the Minister of **COAL** be pleased to state?

- (a) whether Government anticipates coal's share in the national energy mix, declining to about thirty-five per cent by 2047, in line with long-term transition goals;
- (b) if so, the measures being pursued by Government to ensure responsible fossil fuel use, including sustainable stewardship roadmaps, adoption of cleaner technologies and diversification towards non-fossil energy; and
- (c) Government plans for replicating uniform environmental standards across coal mines, particularly to curb dust emissions, strengthen regulatory oversight and promote best practices in occupational health and environmental protection?

ANSWER

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

(a) Government is pursuing a calibrated and balanced energy transition in line with India's developmental needs, energy security requirements and climate commitments. While coal continues to play an important role in meeting the country's base-load power requirements, sustained emphasis is being placed on the expansion of non-fossil energy sources such as solar, wind, hydro and nuclear.

As per Ministry of Power, as on 31.12.2025, installation of 266.78 GW of non-fossil electricity generation capacity, constituting about 51.9% of the total installed capacity, has been achieved. In coming years, a significant capacity addition of 100 GW through nuclear power has been envisaged by 2047 to enhance long-term energy reliability so as to reduce dependence on fossil fuels. With continued capacity addition from non-fossil sources, the share of coal in the overall energy mix is expected to gradually decline over time. However, no fixed numerical target for this has been prescribed.

(b) To ensure responsible use of fossil fuels, adoption of cleaner technologies, and diversification towards non-fossil energy, Government has undertaken multiple measures, as below :

- i. Government has issued a bidding trajectory for the issuance of Renewable Energy (RE) power procurement bids of 50 GW per annum by Renewable Energy Implementing Agencies (REIAs) from FY 2023-24 to FY 2027-28.

- ii. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been permitted up to 100% under the automatic route.
- iii. Standard bidding guidelines have been issued for tariff-based competitive procurement of solar, wind, wind-solar hybrid and firm and dispatchable renewable energy projects.
- iv. To strengthen market demand for renewable energy, the Government has notified the Renewable Purchase Obligation and Renewable Consumption Obligation trajectory till 2029-30, applicable to all designated consumers under the Energy Conservation Act, 2001, with provisions for penalties on non-compliance.
- v. Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) charges have been waived for the inter-state sale of solar and wind power projects to be commissioned by 30th June, 2025 and there is provision of graded ISTS charges thereafter.
- vi. Schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Uttaan Mahabhiyan (PM-KUSUM), PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, National Programme on High-Efficiency Solar PV Modules, National Green Hydrogen Mission, Viability Gap Funding Scheme for Offshore Wind Energy Projects, and New Solar Power Scheme (for tribal and PVTG habitations) have been launched. The Solar Parks and Ultra Mega Solar Power Projects Scheme has been envisaged to provide land and transmission support for large-scale renewable projects.

(c) The Government has put in place a comprehensive regulatory and policy framework to ensure the adoption of uniform environmental standards across coal mines, with emphasis on control of dust emissions, strengthened regulatory oversight, and promotion of best practices in occupational health and environmental protection.

Environmental safeguards for coal mining projects are standardised through the Environmental Impact Assessment process notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. All coal mines are required to obtain prior environmental clearance and implement approved Environmental Management Plans prescribing mitigation measures for air, water, land and ecological protection.

Regulatory oversight is ensured through statutory monitoring by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change as well as the Central and State Pollution Control Boards. Further, the Environment Audit Rules, 2025 have been notified to strengthen environmental compliance through audits, guidelines and oversight by a Steering Committee chaired by MoEF&CC.

To control dust emissions, coal mines are mandated to implement standard pollution control measures, including dust suppression systems, mechanised handling, water sprinkling, green belt development and road maintenance, as binding conditions of environmental clearance. Occupational health and environmental protection are promoted through mandatory health surveillance, preventive healthcare, workplace safety standards and continuous capacity building.
