

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1589
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.12.2017**

Mining of Coal

1589. SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the mining of coal is still unavoidable for development despite adverse environmental effects and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the contribution of coal in the supply of energy at present;
- (c) the sectors other than energy where coal is being utilised; and
- (d) the efforts being made by the Government to replace coal?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF COAL AND RAILWAYS
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

(a): Coal is the prime source of energy in India and is likely to continue in the years to come. This is primarily due to abundance of occurrence of coal in India and that too at a cheaper rate. Hence, coal will continue to be the prime source of energy in India in near future. Like any other development activity, coal mining also has some adverse environmental effects if they are not suitably addressed. All the coal mining operations are being carried out after obtaining statutory environmental clearance and suitable mitigation measures are taken to keep the environmental attributes within prescribed limits and regular environmental monitoring carried out to ascertain the level of efficacy of pollution control measures. All the pollutants are kept within the prescribed limit and the report is submitted to regulatory agencies on a regular basis. Thus, sustainable mining operations are being carried out.

(b): As informed by Ministry of Power, total coal based generation during 2017-18 (Apr-Nov) was 623.4 BU which is about 77% of total generation in the country.

(c) : Apart from energy sector, coal is being used for other sectors like Steel, Cement, Sponge Iron, fertilizer etc.

(d) : As per India's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) submitted to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), India is to achieve about 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030. This will to some extent replace coal. This will be achieved by tapping non-fossil fuel sources mainly solar, wind, nuclear and hydro.
