

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1507
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2018

Coal Imports

1507. DR. K.GOPAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India's coal imports rose by 7.9% to 134.46 million tones in the first seven months of the current fiscal and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether India's thermal coal demand remained high due to the coal shortage in the power sector and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) whether there was a 6.8 per cent drop in coal and coke imports in October compared to 19.77 million tonnes imports during the same month last financial year and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COAL AND RAILWAYS
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a)&(c):As per provisional data released by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCI&S), during April-October, 2018 (during first seven month of current fiscal) the import of coal was 136.58 MT with a growth rate of 14.91%.

During October, 2018 the coal and coke import was 22.17MT as compared to 18.72 MT during October, 2017 with a growth rate of 18.42%. This increase is largely due to growth of coking coal imports in which India is deficient & also imports by certain thermal power plants which were designed to run on imported coal. The imported quantity of 2017-18 at 208.27 MT is less than the imported quantity of 2014-15 which stood at 217.79 MT even as power generation and industrial activity grew substantially after 2014-15.

(b):There is no shortage of coal for the power plants of the Country. As per Central Electricity authority (CEA) report during the period April-Nov 2018, total coal based generation has been 99.16% of the programme generation with a growth of 5.50% over the corresponding period of last year. This has been possible due to increased supply of coal to the power sector.

During April-Nov 2018, Coal India Ltd.(CIL) has supplied 315.94 MT of coal to power sector at a growth of more than 8% compared to the supply of 291.78 MT in the corresponding period of last year.

As per CEA report coal stock at Power House end as on 16.12.2018 is 15.52 MT as against the stock of 12.20 MT on 16.12.2017 thereby registering an increase of 27.20%.
