

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1733
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2019

Coal Imports

1733. SHRI E.T.MOHAMMED BASHEER:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the coal import is increasing considerably in spite of the Government's announcement that the coal import will be brought down to zero level and take our country on the path of self sufficiency; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the issue?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COAL, FINANCE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)**

(a): Coal imports have fallen from 217.78 MT in 2014-15 to 203.95 MT in 2015-16 and further to 190.95 MT in 2016-17. During 2017-18, the coal import was 208.27 MT which was less than coal import for the year 2014-15.

(b): As per the current import policy, coal is kept under Open General License (OGL) and consumers are free to import coal from the source of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty. There has been a consistent effort to increase domestic coal production so as to reduce dependence on coal imports. The all India raw coal production has increased from 565.77 MT in 2013-14 to 676.48 MT in 2017-18. Absolute increase in all India coal production from 2013-14 to 2017-18 (four years) is 110.71 MT as compared to increase of coal production of 33.73 MT from 2009-10 to 2013-14 (four years).

Coal India Limited (CIL) has also increased its production from 462.41 MT in 2013-14 to 567.36 MT in 2017-18 (four years), an absolute increase of 105 MT as compared to increase of coal production of 31.15 MT between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (four years).

Further, in the current year during April-January, 2019, all India coal production was 568.40 MT with a growth rate of 7.9% and coal production of CIL was 469.65 MT with a growth rate of 6.6% over the corresponding period of previous year.

However, coking coal will continue to be imported as there is limited availability of coking coal in the country. Further, power plants designed on imported coal will also continue to import coal.

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