

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 3544
ANSWERED ON 22.03.2023

Coal Exploration in the Country

3544. SHRI ANNASAHEB SHANKAR JOLLE:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is taking any measures to expand coal exploration in the country, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has taken cognizance to the fact that India's coal reserves will be exhausted in a few decades, if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to address the issue?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES
(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)

(a): Apart from exploration taken up by Geological Survey of India, exploration of coal has been taken up under the Central Sector scheme (CSS) of 'Exploration of Coal and Lignite' and funding from National Mineral Exploration Trust.

(b) & (c): At per present rate of demand/consumption of coal, there is sufficient resources of coal in India which will not be exhausted in a few decades. Further, every year about 1 to 3 billion tonnes of new coal resources are being added through exploration to the Coal Inventory of India.
