

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 959
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023**

Rationalization of Existing Sources of Coal

959. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recommendations of the inter-ministerial task force has been implemented for rationalization of existing sources of coal along with the supply of coal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the adequate coal reserves found in Rajasthan during the survey and if so, the location wise and quantum-wise details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to conduct land survey to find out coal reserves in Churu and Bikaner districts of Rajasthan, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) & (b): Rationalization of coal linkages is a policy initiative of Ministry of Coal in order to reduce the distance in transportation of coal from the coal mines to the consumer. Coal linkage rationalization in power sector has resulted in decrease in transportation cost from the mines to the power plants leading to more efficient coal based power generation. The exercise helps in reducing the load on the transportation infrastructure, easing the evacuation constraints as well as reduction in landed cost of coal.

The linkage rationalization for State/Central PSUs was implemented initially, based on the recommendation of Inter-Ministerial Task Force (IMTF) which was constituted in June, 2014. Another IMTF was constituted in July, 2017 to rationalize the linkages of the Independent Power Producers (IPPs). The methodology for rationalization of coal for IPPs/Private sector plants was also issued on 15.05.2018. An IMTF was also constituted in October, 2018 to examine the possibility of further rationalization of coal linkages, including Swapping of imported coal being transported to hinterland with domestic coal transported near coastal areas. The methodology was accepted by the Government and issued on 05.06.2020, which covers the Power as well as Non-Regulated Sector (NRS) and coal swapping with imported coal has also been permitted.

(c) & (d): No coal deposit has been reported yet in the Rajasthan state. However, lignite is found in Rajasthan. CMPDIL has no plan for exploration in Churu and Bikaner district of Rajasthan during 2022-23.

Geological Survey of India (GSI) has informed that till date, there is no reported occurrence of lignite in Churu district, hence, no exploration is being planned in Churu at present.
