

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2812
ANSWERED ON 15.12.2021**

Coal reserves

**2812. MS. DEBASREE CHAUDHURI:
SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:**

Will the MINISTER OF COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the total reserves of coal in the country and its average consumption per year during the last five years and the current year?
- (b) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government to find alternate sources of energy so that consumption of coal is reduced?
- (c) whether the coal reserves have increased during the last five years in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken to improve the domestic coal production?

ANSWER

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

(a): The total estimated coal reserves (resources) in the country is 3,52,125.97 Million Tonne (MT) as on 01.04.2021. The average consumption of coal during the last five years and the current year is as under:-

(In million tonnes)						
Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (upto Sep.21)
Coal Consumption	836.931	898.252	968.142	955.713	905.883	486.990

(b): The Government has set a target for installing 175 GW of Renewable Energy capacity (excluding large hydro) by the year 2022 which includes 100 GW from solar, 60 GW from wind, 10 GW from Biomass and 5 GW from Small Hydro.

(c): Yes sir.

(d): Coal reserves(resources) increased from 315148.81 MT as on 01.04.2017 to 352125.97 MT as on 01.04.2021.

(e): The following steps have been taken by Government to further improve the domestic coal production:

- i. **Commercial Auction of coal on revenue share mechanism:** Auction of commercial mining on Revenue Sharing Mechanism was launched on 18.06.2020 by Hon'ble Prime Minister. Under this scheme, total of 2 tranches have been successfully completed and third Tranche is currently under process. From these two tranches total of 28 coal mines have been successfully auctioned for which Vesting order have been signed for 27 coal mines.
- ii. **Allowed sale of excess coal production:** The Ministry of Coal has amended Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 with a view to allowing sale of coal or lignite, on payment of additional amount, by the lessee of a captive mine up to 50 percent of the total coal or lignite produced in a financial year, after meeting the requirement of the end use plant linked with the mine. Earlier this year, the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act had been amended to this effect. This is applicable for both the private and public sector captive mines. With this amendment, the Government has paved the way for releasing of additional coal in the market by greater utilization of mining capacities of captive coal and lignite blocks, which were being only partly utilized owing to limited production of coal for meeting only their captive needs.
- iii. **Rolling auction:** In order to expedite the process for conducting auction and to carryout more rounds of auction in a year, a mechanism of rolling auctions of coal mines has been planned. Under this mechanism, upon completion of the electronic auction process of a tranche, the next tranche of auction would be launched for following mines:
 - a. Mines where no bid or only single bid was received in the previous tranche of auction (except for those mines where Ministry of Coal decides to go for second attempt of auction)
 - b . New mines, if any, identified by Ministry of Coal

In the current III tranche of commercial auction, total of 48 coal mines have been rolled over from the II tranche of mines.

- iv. **Single Window Clearance:** The Union government has already launched Single Window Clearance portal on 11.01.2021 for the coal sector to speed up the operationalisation of coal mines. It is an unified platform that facilitates grant of clearances and approvals required for starting a coal mine in India. Now, the complete process shall be facilitated through Single Window Clearance Portal, which will map not only the relevant application formats, but also process flow for grant of approval or clearances.
- v. Coal India Ltd. has envisaged a coal production programme of one Billion Tonne from CIL mines by the year 2023-24. CIL has taken the following steps to achieve the target of augmentation of coal production capacity:
 1. 15 Projects identified with a Capacity of about 160 MTPA (Million Tonnes per Annum) to be operated by Mine Developer cum Operator mode.
 2. Capacity addition through special dispensation in Environment Clearance under clause 7(ii) of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2006
 3. CIL has taken steps to upgrade the mechanized coal transportation and loading system under 'First Mile Connectivity' projects.
