

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF POWER  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.780  
ANSWERED ON 02.12.2021**

**COAL SUPPLY TO POWER PLANTS**

**780. SHRI RAMESH BIDHURI:**

**Will the Minister of POWER  
be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether power plants of the country are facing shortage of supply of coal;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure uninterrupted supply of coal to power plants?**

**A N S W E R**

**THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY**

**(SHRI R.K. SINGH)**

**(a) & (b) : The coal stocks available with the linkage based 136 power plants monitored on a daily basis in Central Electricity Authority (CEA) were 28.9 MT (sufficient for 15 days) as on 31.03.2021, which got increased to 31.1 MT (sufficient for 17 days) as on 16th June, 2021. However, with increased demand, some interruption in supply of coal by coal companies mainly due to heavy rains and increase in the prices of the imported coal, the coal stocks at the power plants got depleted to 7.2 MT (sufficient for 4 days) as on 8th October, 2021. Subsequently, with the concerted efforts of Ministry of Power (MoP), Ministry of Coal (MoC), Ministry of Railways, CEA and Coal India Limited (CIL), the coal stocks have started increasing and have now reached 18.958 MT (sufficient for 9.5 days) as on 26th November, 2021.**

**(c) : Various steps that have been taken to alleviate the coal shortage and to meet the demand in the country are as follows:**

- i. In order to address the issues of coal supplies to power sector, an Inter-Ministerial Sub Group comprising of representatives from Ministries of Power, Coal, Railways, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal India Limited (CIL) /Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) meets regularly to take various operational decisions to enhance supply of coal to thermal power plants as well as for meeting any contingent situations relating to Power Sector including critical coal stocks position in power plants.**
- ii. Ministry of Power has also constituted a Core Management Team (CMT) with members from MoP, Railways, CEA, CIL, NTPC, DVC and POSOCO to ensure close monitoring of coal stocks at thermal power plants (TPPs) and operational decisions are being taken in CMT to augment supply of sufficient quantity of coal to the TPPs.**

- iii. **Further, based on the decision of the Government, CIL has offered about 5.2 Million Tonnes additional coal from its various subsidiaries to State/Central Gencos for lifting through Rail Cum Road (RCR)/ Road mode.**
- iv. **Recently, an Inter-Ministerial Committee comprising of Secretary (Coal), Secretary (Power), Secretary (MoEF&CC) and Chairman, Railway Board has been set up to finalise the demand in advance, review the situation and take corrective action with regard to ensuring adequate coal supply to power plants in the country.**
- v. **Revised coal stocking norms have been formulated by CEA mandating the coal stock of 17 days at pit head stations and 26 days at non-pit head stations to be maintained by power plants from February to June every year.**

\*\*\*\*\*