GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COAL LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *287 TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2022

Coal Supply to Aluminium Industry

*287. SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning for immediate resumption of adequate coal rakes for the highly power- intensive aluminium industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Indian aluminium industry continues to see depleting coal stocks of only 3-4 days against the prescribed level of 15 days for the sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

Statement referred in reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 287 for Answer on 23.03.2022 asked by SHRI T.R. BAALU:

(a) and (b): The coal has been supplied to Aluminium industry by railway rakes as per details mentioned below:

(in rakes/day)

Month	Domestic coal rakes	Imported coal rakes	Total Coal rakes
April-21	19.2	2.1	21.3
May-21	21.5	1.5	23
June-21	23.9	1.7	25.6
July-21	21.9	2.3	24.2
August-21	20.5	2.1	22.6
September-21	16.1	1.7	17.8
October-21	15.8	3.0	18.8
November-21	21.8	4.2	26
December-21	19.4	3.3	22.7
January-22	19.2	2.4	21.6
February-22	15.3	3.3	18.6
March-22 (till 15 th March)	15.7	2.7	18.4
Total	19.2	2.5	21.7

The coal supplies to Non-Power sector (including Aluminium industry) is made through railways rakes as well as other modes like road etc. Coal India Limited (CIL) has supplied 112.04 Million tonnes(MT) of coal in 2021-22 (upto Feb'22) to Non-Power sector. Coal Supplies to the Non-power sector in the corresponding period in 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 from CIL were 102.83 MT, 106.38 MT and 116.4 MT respectively. Aluminium industry also meets its coal demand through imports for which railway rakes are provided at ports.

(c) and (d): The coal stock at different Captive Power Plants of Aluminium sector have fluctuated depending on demand-supply scenario. It has been informed by Ministry of Mines that the coal stock at NALCO plants have depleted to level of 10 days whereas in case of BALCO, the coal stock has improved from the low of 3-4 days in Aug-September 2021 to present levels of 9-10 days. The coal stock at the Thermal Power Plants of the country are sufficient for around 12 days and regular supplies are maintained to meet the power generation requirement.

To boost supplies to Non-Power Sector, CIL has recently conducted Non-Regulated Sector Linkage auction (Tranche-V) for long term supply of coal to the consumers of various non-regulated sector consumers including those in Aluminum Industry in which around 50 MT of Annual Contracted Quantity have been booked.

Besides, e-auction of coal is also being conducted regularly by coal companies to meet the demand of different industries. Upto Feb'22, around 84 MT of coal has been offered to non-power sector in the current fiscal out of which around 59 MT coal has been booked through the e-auction window.
