

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3332  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2022**

**Coal Stock**

**3332. SHRI VELUSAMY P.  
SHRI SHANMUGA SUNDARAM K.**

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

- (a) whether coal stock has reached an alarming level whereby 47 thermal power plants are having four days of stock and 38 power plants have reached critical level;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to tide over the situation and speedy transportation of coal to various power plants;
- (c) whether the Government has received any request for the power plants located in Tamil Nadu;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure supply of coal;
- (e) whether the Government will prepare a coal demand plant for five to ten years; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

**(a):** As per Central Electricity Authority, the coal stock available with the Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) as on 14.03.2022 is about 26.4 Million Tonnes (MT), which is about 39% of the normative coal stock required to be maintained by the TPPs.

**(b):** Government has taken the following measures to increase the coal supply to power plants:

- (i) To address the issues of coal supplies to power sector, an Inter-Ministerial Sub Group comprising of representatives from Ministries of Power, Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) meet 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 to alleviate critical coal stock position in power plants. In addition to this, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has been constituted comprising of Chairman, Railway Board, Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and

Climate Change and Secretary, Ministry of Power to monitor augmentation of coal supply and power generation capacity. Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Chairperson, CEA are co-opted as Special Invitees as and when required by the IMC.

(ii) To help the power plants in enhancing their coal stock, CIL has offered about 5.2 MT coal in October, 2021 and 6 MT coal in December, 2021 from its various subsidiaries to State/Central Gencos for lifting coal through RCR/ Road mode.

(iii) Government has issued the revised the coal stocking norms, which mandates the power plants to maintain sufficient stock at all times to meet any contingent situation.

(iv) Power Utilities are importing coal considering their requirement as well as cost-economics. Further, Ministry of Power vide OM dated 07.12.2021 has advised power plants to import about 36 MT coal for blending during 2022-23 with a view to build sufficient coal stock at Power Plants during monsoon season.

**(c) and (d):** Tamil Nadu has raised the issues regarding supply of coal to the TPPs of TANGEDCO .

To augment coal stock at the power plants, Coal India Limited vide letter dated 30.12.2021 has offered 500 Thousand Tonnes (TT) coal to TANGEDCO from Mahanadi Coalfields Limited for lifting through Road/Rail Cum Road mode. Against the offered quantity, TANGEDCO has lifted about 96 TT coal. Further, in the sub-group meeting held on 08.03.2022 a total of 21 rakes/day has been offered to TANGEDCO to facilitate building of coal stock.

**(e) and (f):** Yes. As per the initial report of Niti Ayog, the estimated coal demand of various sector viz. Power, Generation, Iron & Steel, Cement, Aluminium and Captive Power production, is about 1192-1325 Million Tonnes (MT) in 2030.

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