

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3434
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23/03/2022

Import of Coal

3434. SHRI ARUN SAO:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether coal is imported for the coal based power plants in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether coal import has reduced due to increase in supply of coal by the Coal India Limited (CIL) during the last few years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for substituting domestic coal as an alternative for the imported coal?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. The details of coal imported by coal based power plants during the last five years and current year is given below:-

(in Million tonnes)

Year	Imported coal based plants	coal power	Blended coal based plants	power	Total coal import by Power Plants
2016-17	46.30		19.87		66.17
2017-18	39.37		17.04		56.41
2018-19	40.29		21.37		61.66
2019-20	45.47		23.75		69.22
2020-21	35.08		10.39		45.47
2021-22 Upto Jan.22	16.08		6.65		22.73

(c)&(d): Due to increased availability of coal on account of policy measures taken to increase domestic coal production, total coal import declined from 248.54 MT in 2019-20 to 215.25 MT in 2020-21. Further, during April 2021-January 2022, coal import has further decreased to the level of 173.32 MT as compared to 180.56 MT during the corresponding period of previous year.

Coal import by Power sector declined from 69.22 MT in 2019-20 to 45.47 MT in 2020-21. Further, during April 2021-January 2022, coal import by Power Sector has decreased to the level of 22.73 MT as compared to 39.01 MT during the corresponding period of previous year.

...2/-

::2::

The share of coal supply by CIL, which was around 60.8% of total consumption of coal in 2019-20, increased to 63.3% in 2020-21 and further to 64.3% in 2021-22 (April- January 2022).

(e): An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has been constituted in the Ministry of Coal for the purposed of coal import substitution. The representatives from Ministry of Power, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Steel, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT), Central Electricity Authority (CEA), coal companies and Ports are members of this IMC. This Committee provides a platform for discussions on a larger forum with the Administrative Ministries so as to guide them to encourage the coal consumers of their respective sector to eliminate imports of coal. On the directions of the IMC, an Import Data System has been developed by Ministry of Coal to enable the Ministry to track the imports of coal.

The Annual Contracted Quantity (ACQ) of power plants has been increased upto 100% of the normative requirement, in the cases where the ACQ was reduced to 90% of normative requirement (non-coastal) or where the ACQ was reduced to 70% of normative requirement (coastal power plants). The increase in ACQ would ensure supply of more domestic coal to the power plants.

In addition to the above, some other measures like Introduction of Facility of Usance LC (Letter of Credit) payment mechanism to help the consumer avail credit facility from bank and Special Spot auction scheme for coal importers including the traders, have been introduced to help curtail the imports of coal.
