

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.408
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2022**

SHORTAGE OF COAL SUPPLY

408. SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:

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

- (a) whether there is any shortage or likely shortage in the supply of coal to the power generation units and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the shortage or likely shortage in the supply is due to crisis in the domestic production or import of coal or both;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to overcome such crisis in future?**

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) to (c) : The total quantity of coal despatched to power sector by Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) during April-Dec, 2021 was about 430.6 Million Tonnes (MT) as compared to about 344.2 MT during the corresponding period of the preceding year and was about 375.2 MT during same period of 2019-20, showing a growth of about 25% with respect to preceding year and by about 15% with respect to 2019-20. Further, the import of coal has reduced to 21.4 MT during 2021-22 (Apr-Dec) as against 35.1 MT during same period in 2020-21 and 52.5 MT during same period in 2019-20. The shortfall in imported coal has been compensated by supply from domestic coal. Presently, there is no shortage of coal for power plants in the country.

(d) : The Government of India have 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, Coal, 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 (TPPs) as well as for meeting any contingent situations relating to Power Sector including to alleviate critical coal stock position in power plants.**
- (ii) Ministry of Power (MoP) has 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 TPPs and operational decisions are being taken in CMT to augment supply of sufficient quantity of coal to the TPPs.**
- (iii) Government has issued the revised coal stocking norms, which mandates the power plants to maintain sufficient stocks at all times to meet any contingent situation.**
- (iv) Power Utilities import coal considering their requirement as well as cost-economics. Further, Ministry of Power on 07.12.2021 has advised power plants to import required coal for blending purpose during 2022-23.**

As a result of the above measures, the coal stock available at the power plants has increased from 7.2 MT as on 08.10.2021 to about 25 MT as on 26.01.2022.
