

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4422
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.03.2022**

Use of Explosive in Blasting the Mines

4422. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether coal mines use explosives for blasting the mines and source them through eight agencies which import material from Russia, Ukraine, Bulgaria and Turkey;
- (b) if so, the extent to which the Russia-Ukraine conflict has hit the material availability in the country;
- (c) the alternative arrangements made by Indian coal mines for smooth production; and
- (d) the extent to which the coal production has been hit due to these reasons?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) : Presently, Coal India Limited (CIL) has Regular Running Contracts with 12 domestic private explosive manufacturers for Bulk explosives; with 06 domestic private explosive manufacturers for Large Dia explosives and with 04 domestic private explosive manufacturers for Permitted explosives. CIL also has a parallel Long Term Running Contract with M/s Indian Oil Corporation Limited for supply of Bulk explosives. Eight private explosive firms are supplying SME Explosives to SCCL. Further, SCCL has two captive explosive manufacturing plants of total capacity of 50,000 tonnes.

There are 4 manufacturers of High Density Ammonium Nitrate (HDAN) in the country and the domestic production of HDAN is not sufficient to meet the requirement for manufacturer of various kinds of explosives used for coal mining, non-coal mining and infrastructure projects. Therefore, explosive manufacturers use mix of domestic and imported AN for manufacturer of explosives. As per the information available in public domain, Russia has banned the export of Ammonium Nitrate (AN). This has affected supply of explosives to the some extent. In order to ensure uninterrupted supply of explosives for smooth production of Coal, Government has taken steps to increase domestic production of Ammonium Nitrate in the country.
