

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.684
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022**

Supply of Coal to Power Plants

684. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:

Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has run special trains for supply of coal to power plants in the beginning of the current year and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has chalked out any special policy to insure uninterrupted supply of coal in various states that are likely to be affected by flood during the coming rainy season and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of steps taken by the Government to improve the living standard of workers engaged in coal mines;

(d) whether the Government is working on providing clean drinking water under Jal Jeevan Mission to people living nearby coal mines; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a): As per information received from Ministry of Railways informed that the transportation of coal by Railways is through open wagons. During first quarter of 2022-23, Indian Railways has transported average 434 rakes per day (Domestic + Imported) to power sector which is about 31% more than the corresponding period of the last year.

(b): 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, CEA, CIL and 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. Coal dispatch from the captive coal blocks is also being monitored regularly.

Coal India Limited, the largest supplier of coal in the country, has dispatched 152.49 MT of coal to Power Sector in the first quarter of the current fiscal surpassing all the previous highs of the same period and achieving a growth of 19% over last year same period. CIL has already started building stock at its railway sidings along with Good shed and private Washery sidings & ports (CIL sidings: 1.82 MT, Good Shed: 1.45 MT, Pvt. Washery: 0.95 MT & Port: 1.39 MT, Total: 5.61 MT) to facilitate adequate supply for power sector. As per Central Electricity Authority (CEA), coal stock at the power plants has improved from the level of 25.6 MT as on 31.03.2022 to 28.34 MT on 14.07.2022.

(c): In order to improve the living standard of the Coal Miners, Coal India Limited/Singareni Collieries Company Limited are paying utmost attention towards welfare amenities/facilities (Statutory & Non-statutory) to all employees including contractual workers working in Coal Mines. The amenities/facilities is being provided in Coal Mines areas are Housing, Education, Medical, clean water, Sports & Recreational, Banking and post offices, Co-operative stores and credit societies, Child care leave for female employees.

Coal India Limited/Singareni Collieries Company Limited are also maintaining various statutory welfare facilities for the coal mines such as Canteen, Rest Shelters etc. in accordance with the provision of the Mines Act 1952 and Rules and Regulations framed there-under,

(d) & (e): Since August, 2019, Government of India, in partnership with States, is implementing Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) to make provision of potable tap water supply to every rural household of the country, including those near coal mines, by 2024. The total estimated outlay of the mission is Rs. 3.60 lakh Crore.

At the time of announcement of Jal Jeevan Mission, out of 18.93 Crore rural households, 3.23 Crore (17%) households were reported to have tap water connections. So far, more than 6.56 Crore (34%) rural households have been provided with tap water connections in last thirty-five months. Thus, as of date, out of 19.20 Crore rural households in the country, 9.79 Crore (51%) households are reported to have tap water supply in their homes.
