

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.863
ANSWERED ON 21.07.2022**

IMPACT OF COAL SHORTAGE

863. SHRIMATI NUSRAT JAHAN RUHI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that coal shortage is being faced by many thermal plants in different part of the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether it is also a fact that due to coal shortage, many States have witnessed the massive disruption of power supply; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon?**

A N S W E R

THE MINISTER OF POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI R.K. SINGH)

(a) to (d) : The coal stock available with the Thermal Power Plants (TPPs) was 25.6 Million Tonnes (MT) as on 31.03.2022, and have increased to 28.3 MT as on 14.07.2022, which is about 50% of the normative coal stock required to be maintained by the TPPs. The stock available as on 14.07.2022 is sufficient to run TPPs for an average of 10 days at 85% Plant Load Factor (PLF). Plant-wise stock is monitored by Central Electricity Authority.

Further, during 2022-23 (Apr-June), against the requirement of 404.76 Billion Units (BU), the energy supplied was 400.65 BU. Gap in supply is generally on account of factors other than inadequacy of power availability in the country, which are constraints in distribution network, financial constraints, commercial reasons, forced outage of generating units etc.

Government has taken following steps to ensure smooth coal supply to power plants for unhindered power generation:-

- (i) An Inter-Ministerial Sub Group comprising of representatives from Ministries of Power, Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways, 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.**

- (ii) As per the decision taken in the meeting held under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary on Augmentation of coal supply and power generation capacity, a Secretary level Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) has been set up to ensure that the medium and long term requirements of coal are met. The IMC comprises of Chairman, Railway Board, Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Secretary, Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change as members and Secretary, Ministry of Power as convener.**

- (iii) Ministry of Power vide OM dated 28.04.2022 has advised power plants to import coal for blending purposes during 2022-23.**

- (iv) CIL has allocated about 16 MT coal on Road cum Rail (RCR) mode to TPPs.**

- (v) Railways has issued order to give preference to Power Sector for loading of coal from Good Shed Siding (GSS) and Private Washery (PW).**
