

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3727
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024

Coal Extraction in Chhattisgarh

3727. Shri Dushyant Singh:

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

- (a) the primary challenges and concerns associated with the extraction of coal from Chhattisgarh for power plants in Rajasthan despite receiving necessary approval from both State and Union Government;
- (b) the specific measures being implemented to address environmental and logistical issues related to the extraction, washing and transportation of coal from Chhattisgarh to Rajasthan along with the details for the agencies involved in these processes;
- (c) the manner in which the Government ensures that the coal extraction process adheres to environmental regulations and sustainable practices along with the steps being taken to mitigate any negative impacts on local communities and ecosystems;
- (d) the current status of coal supply for electricity generation in Rajasthan along with the details of power plants which are receiving coal including quantity thereof; and
- (e) the manner in which the Government is addressing potential supply disruptions or shortages?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES
(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a): Parsa East & Kanta Basan coal block and Parsa coal block in Chhattisgarh state allocated to Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd (RRVUNL) for the supply of coal to the power plants in Rajasthan, have got all the clearances. However, the challenges are relating to the handing over of the forest land.

(b): Entire coal dispatch is through First Mile Connectivity incorporating mechanized coal conveyor belt, rapid loading system and railway rake dispatch system. In order to facilitate enhanced supply of rakes to power sector, Railways are regularly including wagons as per demand to facilitate evacuation of coal. Further, the environmental conservation measures include Compensatory Afforestation (CA) in respect of forest land acquired for coal mining. In addition, aggressive afforestation using different methods like Miyawaki plantation, Sal Regeneration & conservation of Topsoil etc., is being done at the location/area where coal

has been extracted. Different agencies involved in coal extraction and transportation are RRVUNL, Mine Development Operator (MDO), Local Service Providers, and Local Women Self Help Group & Project Affected Persons.

(c): The manner in which the Government ensures that the coal extraction process adheres to environmental regulations and sustainable practices being taken to mitigate any negative impacts on local communities and ecosystems, are as under:

(i) For opening new mine, prior Environmental Clearance (EC) is secured from Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change (MoEF&CC) under Environment (Protection) Act & Rules, 1986 and EIA Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments. The mines are operated complying with the EC conditions thereby ensuring environment sustainability.

(ii) In compliance of the Van (Sanrakshan evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, prior Forestry Clearance is also secured from MoEF&CC, in case of projects involving forest land.

(iii) In case of Expansion Projects (for enhancement in production capacity and / or land area) prior Environmental Clearance is secured from MoEF&CC under Environment (Protection) Act & Rules, 1986 and EIA Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments.

(iv) After receipt of EC, Consent to Establish (CTE) and Consent to Operate (CTO) are also secured from respective State Pollution Control Boards under Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

(v) During implementation of the project, Environmental Compliance Report against the stipulated EC conditions are submitted to MoEF&CC.

(vi) In compliance of the EC/CTE/CTO conditions, regular environmental monitoring with respect to ambient air quality, effluent quality, noise level monitoring and ground water (both levels and quality) are monitored and reports are submitted to MoEF&CC, State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and Central Ground Water Board (CGWB).

(vii) In compliance of the statute, Annual Environmental (Audit) Statement for the preceding financial year for each operating mine is submitted to respective SPCB on or before 30th September every year.

(viii) In compliance of EC and Consent conditions, various pollution control measures and environment sustainability measures are undertaken which are regularly monitored and continuously strengthened.

(ix) All required environmental issues related compliances are being strictly adhered to along with focussed CSR activities taken up in the surrounding communities.

(x) Quarterly inspections of MoEF&CC officials & State Forest Dept. & State Pollution Control Board are being conducted at the mining site & evaluation of quarterly and half yearly returns are being submitted to different statutory agencies.

(d): The current status of coal supply for electricity generation in Rajasthan along with the details of domestic coal based (DCB) power plants which are receiving coal including quantity thereof, during 2024-25 (Apr-Oct) is as under:

(Figures in Thousand Tonnes)

S. No.	Power Plants located in Rajasthan	Capacity (MW)	Domestic Receipt	Imported Receipt	Total Receipt	Total Consumption
1	CHHABRA-I PH-1 TPP	500	971	0	971	1337
2	CHHABRA-I PH-2 TPP	500	1789	0	1789	1525
3	CHHABRA-II TPP	1320	2627	0	2627	2662
4	KALISINDH TPS	1200	2632	0	2632	2591
5	KOTA TPS	1240	4046	0	4046	3931
6	SURATGARH TPS	1500	3522	0	3522	3493
7	SURATGARH STPS	1320	2299	0	2299	2325
8	ADANI POWER LIMITED KAWAI TPP	1320	2312	994	3306	3088
	TOTAL	8900	20196	994	21190	20953

During 2024-25 (Apr-Oct), the receipt was greater than consumption in the above plants. Further, as on 11.12.2024, the coal stock available at the DCB plants located in Rajasthan was 15.5 Lakh Tonnes (LT), sufficient to run these plants for an average of about 13 days at 85% PLF.

(e): Supply of coal to the power plants including the power plants located in Rajasthan is a continuous process. Coal supply is continuously monitored by the coal companies and also by an Inter-Ministerial Sub Group comprising of representatives from Ministry of Power, Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), which meet regularly to take various operational decisions to enhance supply of coal to Thermal Power Plants.

Besides, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has also 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.
