GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF COAL LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2893 TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2025

Domestic Coal Production and Import

2893. Shri Balram Naik Porika:

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

- (a) the details of domestic coal production in the country during the last two years along with the total production achieved against the set target, month-wise;
- (b) the details of coal imports by the power sector and non-power sectors including steel, cement and other industries during the same period along with the total imports against the projected requirements, month-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has declared the country as having a surplus status in coal production and if so, the details of basis and parameters used for such declaration;
- (d) the reasons for the continued high levels of coal imports by the power and non-power sectors despite the declared surplus status including any sector-specific factors such as quality mismatches, logistical challenges or demand surges; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce import dependence in coming years?

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

(a): The details of domestic coal production in the country during the last two years against the set target is as under:

[Figures in Million Tonnes]

Year	Annual Plan Target	Production Achieved
FY 2023-24	1012	997.826
FY 2024-25	1080	1047.523

The month-wise domestic coal production during the last two years is as under:

[Figures in Million Tonnes]

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Month	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	
April	73.424	78.704	
May	76.412	83.968	
June	73.927	84.802	
July	69.580	73.964	
August	67.754	62.656	

September	67.259	68.859
October	78.572	84.599
November	84.560	90.762
December	92.988	97.952
January	100.068	104.432
February	96.606	98.304
March	116.676	118.520
Total	997.826	1047.523

(b): The details of coal imports by the power sector and non-power sectors (including steel, cement and other industries) during the last two years is as under:

[Figures in Million Tonnes]

	Power	Sector	Non Power Sector	
Year	DCB*	ICB#	(including steel, cement and other industries)	Total
FY 2023-24	23.92	41.8	198.8	264.52
FY 2024-25	14.02	48.55	181.06	243.63

^{*} DCB - Domestic coal based power plants for blending purpose

The month-wise coal imported during the last two years is as under:

[Figures in Million Tonnes]

Month	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25
April	20.015	22.416
May	27.905	25.035
June	22.947	21.086
July	18.815	21.809
August	19.130	20.689
September	18.970	18.327
October	26.392	19.866
November	23.451	18.738
December	22.565	15.290
January	20.996	22.209
February	21.381	17.860
March	21.964	20.298

(c): The country is moving towards a coal Atmanirbharta scenario. The coal stocks at the domestic coal based thermal power plants end as on 30.11.2025 was 50.52 MT as compared to 36.58 MT on the same day of last year with an increase of 38.11%. At the present level of actual consumption, this stock is sufficient for 23 days (2.17 MT/day consumption). The coal stocks at pit head end have also increased over the time. Pit-head stock of CIL and SCCL as on 30.11.2025 was 89.95 MT as compared to 71.84 MT of the same day of last year with an increase of 25.21%.

[#] ICB - Imported coal based power plants (designed on imported coal)

(d): As per the current import policy, coal is kept under Open General License (OGL) and consumers are free to import coal from the source of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty. At present, most of the requirement of coal in the country is met through domestic production, however some high-grade coal like coking coal and low ash thermal coal is imported mainly by steel industry and imported coal based (ICB) power plants as per their requirements. India's import of coal is owing to various factors, including less reserves of coking coal and its quality.

(e): The steps taken by the Government to encourage use of domestically produced coal and to reduce coal import dependency are as under:

- i. The Annual Contracted Quantity (ACQ) has been increased upto 100% of the normative requirement, in the cases where the ACQ was either reduced to 90% of normative requirement (non-coastal power plants) or where the ACQ was reduced to 70% of normative requirement (coastal power plants). Increase in the ACQ would result in more domestic coal supplies, thereby, reducing the import dependency.
- ii. Vide amendment to the Non-Regulated Sector (NRS) linkage auction policy introduced in 2020, the tenure of coking coal linkages in the NRS linkage auction has been revised for a period upto 30 years. Increase in tenure of coking coal linkages in the NRS linkage auction for a period upto 30 years is expected to have a positive impact towards coal imports substitution.
- iii. Government decided in 2022 that coal to meet the full Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) requirement of all the existing linkage holders of Power Sector shall be made available by the coal companies irrespective of the trigger level and ACQ levels. This decision of the Government of meeting the full PPA requirement of the linkage holders of the Power Sector is expected to reduce dependence on imports.
- iv. A new sub-sector 'Steel using Coking coal through WDO route' has been created in March, 2024 under the NRS linkage auctions which will lead to increase in the domestic coking coal consumption and also increase availability of washed coking coal in the country, thereby, reducing coking coal imports.
- v. Coking Coal Mission has been launched to enhance coking coal supply to the Steel Sector to reduce imports of coking coal. Initiatives have been taken to enhance coking coal production.
- vi. Imported Coal Based (ICB) Plants have been allowed to secure coal under the Revised SHAKTI Policy, 2025. The coal availability for ICB Plants under this Policy is expected to reduce dependence of these ICB plants on imported coal.
- vii. Existing Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) holders have been allowed to secure coal under the Revised SHAKTI Policy, 2025 after procuring 100% of the ACQ coal under existing FSA. Coal availability beyond the ACQ to existing FSA holders will benefit the power producers to meet the full requirement of the power plants.
