GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.271
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2015

Lignite Coal Reserves

271. SHRIARJUN MEGHWAL :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate quantity of lignite coal reserves are av ailable in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the lignite coal mining in the country during each of the last three years, mine-wise;

(c) whether lignite coal is also utilised for any other purpose other than power generation, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to modernise the technology used in mining of the coal reserves in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) IN THE MINISTR Y OF COAL,

POWER AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY

(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question no. 271 for 17.12.2015 regarding'Lignite Coal Reserves'.

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1. Adequate quantity of lignite reservesare available in the country.The details of lignite production(in MT) from the mines for the last 3 years are furnished below:

I. Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited Mines (NLC)				
Sl.No	**State**	**2012-13**	**2013-14**	**2014-15**
1	Mine-I &Expn. (TN)	7.960	9.003	9.055
2	Mine-II &Expn.(TN)	13.944	13.052	13.221
3	Mine-IA(TN)	2.940	3.001	2.915
4	Barsingsar,(Raj)	1.379	1.553	1.352
	Gujarat			
II. Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Limited (GMDC) Mines				
5	Panandhro	2.851	2.674	2.789
6	Rajpardi	0.925	0.579	0.615
7	Matanomadh	3.297	3.004	3.211
8	Tadkeshwar	1.911	1.077	0.883
9	Surkha North	1.924	1.065	1.202
	Umarsar	0.000	0.000	0.013
III. Gujarat Industrial Power Corporation Limited (GIPCL) Mines				
10	Vastan	0.922	0.672	0.628
11	Mangrol	2.404	1.735	0.357
12	Valia		0.599	2.404
IV. Gujarat Heavy Chemical Limited (GHCL) Mines (Pvt Limited)				
13	Khadsailya	0.313	0.182	0.195
V. Rajasthan State Mines & Minerals Limited (RSMML) Mines				
14	Giral	0.917	0.632	0.430
15	Sonari	0.191	0.582	0.669
16	Kasnau / Matasukh	0.284	0.213	0.304
VI. V.S. Lignite (Pvt Limited)				
17	Gurha East	0.815	0.890	1.005
VII. BarmerLig. Mining Co. Ltd. (BLMCL) Mines				
18	BLMCL	3.500	3.750	6.996
	Grand Total in Million Tonnes	46.477	44.263	48.244

2. Lignite can be utilized for purposes other than power generation also. Lignite is used as fuel for the boilers in industries viz. Cement, Textile, Chemical, Steel, Brick kilns and for other small industrial purposes. NLC has also obtained patent for Humic Acid, a Plant growth simulator which is extracted from lignite.

3. NLC is mining lignite and operates pit head power generating stations. As on date NLC is operating three open cast Lignite mines at Neyveli with a production capacity of 28.5 Million Tonnes Per Annum. In all the three mines, continuous mining technology is being adopted for the last five decades with sophisticated Specialised Mining Equipments (SMEs) viz. Bucket Wheel Excavators (BWE), Mobile Transfer Conveyors (MTC), system of Conveyors and Spreaders for excavation and transportation of lignite and overburden. Mechanized Conventional Mining Equipment technology comprising of Shovel & Dumper combination is used in Barsingsar lignite Mine, Rajasthan.

4. In addition to the above, the following measures have been implemented in the existing Mines of NLC as a part of modernization and to improve the productivity and safety:-

   i) Wireless based centralized monitoring operation and control system in one of the benches of Mine-IA.
   ii) Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) based automation system for Mine-I Lignite bunker.
   iii) Implementation of Variable Voltage Variable Frequency (VVVF) drives in Specialized Mining Equipments and Conveyors.
   iv) All the Specialised Mining Equipments(SMEs) and Bucket Wheel Excavators (BWEs), conveyors, spreaders etc. procured for new mines viz., Mine-II expansion are incorporated with latest art of technology like VVVF PLC enabling higher production & productivity.

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