

- (c) the details of the reserve stocks of coal and lignite in the country;
- (d) whether Government is planning to increase the import of coal; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The power stations in the country were carrying comfortable coal stocks till August 2011. However, heavy rains in the coalfields severely dislocated coal transportation and wagon loading, particularly in August and September 2011, so much so that despatch to power utilities from CIL sources which was having a growth of 5% during April-July 2011 over the same period of the previous year suffered a relative decline of about 1.1% during April-October, 2011. Coal despatches to power utilities were also affected due to frequent law and order problems, particularly in Jharkhand and Odisha affecting despatches in Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) and Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL). Despatch was also affected due to constraints of wagon availability in comparison to indents in certain coalfields.

Coal despatches have, however, improved from November 2011 onwards. During April 2011 to February 2012, total despatches to power utilities have been 281.395 Million Tonnes, indicating growth of 2.2% over the corresponding period of the previous year. The coal stocks with the power stations have also improved from 8.125 Million Tonnes, equivalent to 7 days requirement as on 31.10.2011 to 12.798 Million Tonnes, equivalent to 10 days requirement as on 15.03.2012.

(c) As on 31st January 2012, the pit-head stocks with coal companies was 57.209 Million Tonnes. Since lignite is prone to spontaneous combustion, normally only 7 days lignite production is kept each at the mines, bunker storage and at Thermal Power Station storage yards.

(d) Government does not import coal and the consumers themselves import coal, which is under Open General Licence (OGL), to meet their requirements.

(e) Does not arise, in view of the reply given to part (d) of the question.

Shortage of coal in power plants

1247. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Coal India Limited (CIL) was supposed to supply about 306 MTS of coal to various power plants in the country during 2011-12;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to shortage of lifting of coal, there had been acute shortage of coal in various power plants during that period; and

(d) if so, the measures adopted by the Ministry to meet the shortfall so that the power generation continues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The supply target of 327.54 Million Tonnes of coal and coal products was fixed in the Annual Action Plan for supply to power utilities from CIL sources for 2011-12.

(c) As per Central Electricity Authority (CEA)'s report, the coal stock with power utilities as on 20.03.2012 was 12.73 Million Tonnes equivalent to 10 days requirement. During April 2011-February 2012, against the *pro-rata* supply target of 296.462 Million Tonnes for Power Utilities from CIL sources, supply was 281.395 Million Tonnes (Provisional), with 95% materialization of target, which indicates growth of 2.2% over despatches of 275.236 Million Tonnes in the corresponding period of previous year.

(d) An inter-ministerial sub-group under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary, Ministry of Coal meets regularly to take stock of the coal stock position at power plants and *inter-alia*, suggests measures for augmentation of coal supplies to the power plants having less than 7 days coal stock.

Coal requirements of power plants

1248. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has given directive to the Coal India Limited (CIL) that the company must meet at least 80 per cent of the coal requirements of power plants or get ready to pay a penalty;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how CIL proposes to honour this directive?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) The Government has decided after consultation with the concerned Ministries that Coal India Limited (CIL) will sign Fuel Supply Agreements (FSAs) with power plants that have entered into long term Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) with Distribution Companies (DISCOMS) and have been commissioned/would get commissioned on or before 31st March, 2015. It has been estimated that about 477 million tonnes of coal will be required in the terminal year of the Twelfth Plan (2016-17) for meeting the requirement of linkages to power sector by CIL, if 100% Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) are in place. The actual coal commitment would depend upon the percentage of PPAs signed.

(c) The estimated coal production by Coal India Limited by the end of terminal year of Twelfth Plan period (2016-17) is estimated at 615 Million Tonnes, which will be adequate to meet the demand of the said FSA holders. However, in case of any shortfall in fulfilling its commitments under the FSAs from its own production, CIL may arrange for supply of coal through imports or through arrangements for obtaining coal from State/Central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) who have been allotted coal blocks and have started production of coal but have not commissioned their end use plants.