

(b) The Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) considers the applications for the grant of long term coal linkage/Letter of Assurance for the power projects located in various States based on the recommendations of Ministry of Power, coal availability, movement logistics and other relevant factors. The quantity of coal to be allotted to the power generation units is decided by the coal company, plant-wise and not State-wise on the basis of the norms fixed by the Ministry of Power, the generation capacity of the unit authorized linkage/Letter of Assurance and the grade of coal.

(c) and (d) Short term production constraints at a coal company, unloading constraints at power plants, movement constraints of Railways, transportation constraints of coal companies etc. are some of the major factors which affect coal supply to the power utilities of various States. Representations have been received, from time to time, from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, etc. seeking enhancement of coal quantity for the power plants located in their States. 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 of the power plants having less coal stock, with a view to maintain the level of power generation, on the basis of overall contracted quantity for such plants, coal availability, movement logistics etc.

Illegal mining and theft of coal

1251. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that illegal mining and theft of coal is costing national economy heavily;
- (b) if so, the details of the action taken to put an end of this menace;
- (c) the number of cases of illegal mining and theft of coal detected during the last five years and how many persons were convicted in the matter;
- (d) whether coal companies have utterly failed in pursuing the FIRs and have left the matter of the mercy of prosecution authorities of the States; and
- (e) the measures taken of initiate disciplinary proceedings against such officials for dereliction of duties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (e) Theft/pilferage and illegal mining of coal are carried out stealthily and clandestinely. As such, it is not possible to specify the exact quantum of coal stolen and losses incurred on account of theft/pilferage and illegal mining of coal. Whenever cases of theft/pilferage and illegal mining of coal detected, First Information Reports (FIR) are lodged by the Company/CISF officials.

The steps taken by coal companies to prevent illegal mining/theft/pilferage include:

- (i) Rat holes created by illegal mining are dozed off and filled up with stone and debris whenever possible.
- (ii) Concrete walls have been erected on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.
- (iii) Regular raids/checks being conducted by security personnel and static security pickets including armed guards during the night hours are being deployed at pithead depots.
- (iv) Surprise raids/checks are conducted jointly by security personnel and law and order authorities or the concerned State Government.
- (v) Fencing is being constructed at the various illegal mining sites along with displaying signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place" ..
- (vi) Dumping the over burden is done on the outcrop zones, which are not required to be mined.
- (vii) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing District authorities of the same for taking preventive action.
- (viii) Installation of check posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.
- (ix) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training to CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security set up.
- (x) The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State Government.
- (xi) Committee/task force has been constituted at different level (block level, sub-divisional level, district and state level) at some subsidiaries of CIL to monitor different aspects of illegal mining.

As per information received from CIL, the details of the FIRs lodged and conviction status in connection with theft/pilferage of coal in the subsidiaries of Coal India Limited are given in the Statement-I and II respectively.

Statement-I

The number of FIRs lodged in connection with illegal mining of coal in different subsidiaries of CIL during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 are given below

Year	Coal India Limited Subsidiary Companies								(Provisional)
	ECL	BCCL	CCL	NCL	WCL	SECL	MCL	NEC	Outcome (charge sheet issued/Trial Court/ Investigation, etc.)
2006-07	61	1	3	0	5	1	0	3	19
2007-08	19	6	15	0	3	0	0	0	33
2008-09	43	5	2	0	1	0	0	0	22
2009-10	68	3	2	0	0	0	0	2	23
2010-11	11	3	5	0	0	0	0	2	19

Note:-

ECL	Eastern Coalfields Limited
BCCL	Bharat Coking Coal Limited
CCL	Central Coalfields Limited
NCL	Northern Coalfields Limited
WCL	Western Coalfields Limited
SECL	South Eastern Coalfields Limited
MCL	Mahanadi Coalfields Limited
NEC	North Eastern Coalfields

Statement-II

The number of FIRs lodged in connection with illegal mining of coal in different subsidiaries of CIL during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 are given below:

Year	Coal India Limited Subsidiary Companies								(Provisional)
	ECL	BCCL	CCL	NCL	WCL	SECL	MCL	NEC	Outcome (Conviction/ Trial/ Investigation)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2006-07	334	50	8	0	13	6	16	28	125
2007-08	333	44	5	0	38	12	8	6	110

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2008-09	210	71	9	2	41	3	10	17	166
2009-10	194	53	8	1	42	6	25	18	268
2010-11	65	21	2	0	25	4	1	51	168

Production of coal

†1252. SHRI BALVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coal produced in the country between December, 2011 and February, 2012;

(b) whether a decrease has been registered in coal production during the said period;

(c) if so, the volume of this decrease and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the thermal power plants have been supplied less coal during the said period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Production of coal between December, 2011 and February, 2012 is given below:-

Period	Production (in MT)
December, 2011	52.781
January, 2012	54.197
February, 2012	55.937

(b) The coal produced in the country has increased from 52.781 million tonnes on December, 2011 to 55.937 million tonnes in February, 2012.

(c) Does not arise in view of part (a) and (b).

(d) and (e) The coal supplies made by CIL and SCCL to power utilities have increased from 92.32 million tonnes during December, 2010 to February, 2011 to 99.35 Million tonnes during December, 2011 to February, 2012.

Sale of coal

1253. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the sale of coal in the market meant for captive plants;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.