

Shortage of coal

780. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of coal blocks have been disallowed by the Supreme Court (SC);

(b) the quantity of coal required for generation of adequate energy in the country and its shortage as on date;

(c) how many coal blocks in the country are operational as of now; and

(d) what is the plan of the Ministry to operationalize the coal blocks which have been disallowed by SC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgment dated 25.08.2014 and order dated 24.09.2014 passed in W.P.(Criminal) No.120 of 2012 and other connected matters has declared all allocations of the coal blocks made through Screening Committee and through Government Dispensation route since 1993 as arbitrary and illegal and has cancelled the allocation of 204 coal blocks out of 218 coal blocks (*i.e.* except Tasra coal block allocated to Steel Authority of India Ltd. and Pakri Barwadih coal block allocated to National Thermal Power Corporation and 12 coal blocks allocated for Ultra Mega Power Projects). In case of 42 coal blocks (37 producing and 05 likely to come under production), cancellation shall take effect from 31.03.2015.

(b) During the year 2014-15, the total coal requirement for power generation was assessed as 554 million tonnes (MT) for power plants designed on indigenous coal and 40 million tonnes designed on imported coal. As against domestic coal requirement of 554 million tonnes, availability of domestic coal requirement was ascertained as 473 MT, leaving a shortfall of 81 MT. In order to meet this shortfall, power utilities have been advised to import coal equivalent to 54 MT.

(c) and (d) As on date, a total of 40 captive coal blocks have come under production. As the Hon'ble Supreme Court has allowed coal production from the 37 producing coal blocks (which have been cancelled) till 31st March, 2015, there is no disruption in coal production at present.

For management and re-allocation of cancelled coal blocks, Government has promulgated 'the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Ordinance, 2014' on 21.10.2014 to ensure smooth transfer of rights, title and interests in the mines/blocks along with its land and other associated mining infrastructure to the new allottees to be selected through an

auction or allotment to government company, as the case may be. The allocation of coal blocks would now be made in pursuance of the provisions of Ordinance and Rules made thereunder in a time bound manner to ensure that there is no disruption in supply of coal.

Requirement of coal for power plants

781. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the current requirement of coal for power plants in the country including Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(b) if so, whether the required quantity is being supplied to these power plants in the States, particularly in Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(c) if not, the reasons for inadequate supply of coal to these power plants; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Details of coal requirement of all the power plants including State of Jharkhand and Gujarat for the year 2014-15, as furnished by Central Electricity Authority, is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) and (c) Despatch of coal to the Power Stations of Jharkhand and Gujarat against Contract Quantity as per Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) / Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) during the period April-October, 2014 is as under :

State	(Figs., in 000 tonne)		
	April-October '14 (Provisional)		
	Contract Quantity	Despatch	% Materialisation
Gujarat	13898	11125	80%
Jharkhand	8707	7328	84%

The reasons for less materialization for these two States are as follows:

Gujarat :

Non-lifting of adequate coal by the Power Stations of Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Limited (GSECL) from Korea-Rewa field through rail mode and less materialization through private washery from Korba field has been affecting despatches to their power stations. The Washery Operator has been engaged by GSECL. This apart, insistence of Torrent-Sabarmati Plant to get supply from specified source from SECL also led to less materialization. However despatches to Gujarat Power Stations during the month of November '14 (till 23rd) has improved to the level of 96% of contracted quantity.