

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of coal stocked at power plants; and

(c) the urgent steps Ministry is taking to meet the demand of coal supply?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) In 2018-19 (up to 05.08.2018), Coal India Limited (CIL) dispatched 167.86 MT (provisional) coal to Power Sector, thereby achieving a growth of 15% over the dispatch in the corresponding period of last year. The growth in dispatch of coal to Power Sector has helped coal based generation to achieve positive growth of 5.3% and 101.3% of the programme in the 1st Quarter of 2018-19. The coal stock at power plants depends on a number of factors like availability of suitable coal transport arrangement, payment of outstanding dues of the coal company, scheduling of power depending on merit order dispatch position of the plants etc. Moreover, in order to meet the power demand, many generating companies have opted to divert coal to v the more cost efficient power plants under the provisions of Flexible Utilization of Domestic Coal Policy (June, 2016).

In the first quarter of 2017-18, some power plants regulated coal intake due to low demand for power generation and preferred to consume coal from their stock. In the second quarter of 2017-18, there was a sudden spurt in demand for thermal power, arising out of drop in generation from other sources which gave, sudden rise in coal demand at1 the Power House end which were receiving coal from Coal Companies including M-di Coalfields Limited (MCL) and several Eastern Coalfields.

(c) The progress of production and off-take of CIL is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. New rail lines are being laid for smooth evacuation of increased coal production from the mines of growing coalfields of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL), MCL and Central Coalfields Limited (CCL). Further, coal supplies to Power sector is monitored regularly by an Inter-Ministerial Sub Group comprising representatives of Ministries of Power, Coal, Railways, Shipping, CEA, NITI Aayog, CIL etc. A committee of Secretary (Coal), Secretary (Power) and Member (Traffic), Railway Board has also been jointly reviewing the coal transportation and supply on a regular basis.

#### **Number of Coal Mines**

2783. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coal mines in the country;

(b) whether there is coal mining in private sector; and

- (c) whether there is any proposal for allowing FDI in coal sector?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Total number of Coal Mines in the country is 454.

- (b) Yes Sir. There are 22 coal mines in the private sector in the country.

(c) As per Consolidated FDI Policy 2017, the Government has decided to permit 100% FDI under automatic route for Coal and Lignite mining for captive consumption by power projects, iron and steel and cement units and other eligible activities permitted under and subject to the provisions of relevant statute.

**Inability of public sector telecommunication companies to  
provide quality services**

†2784. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the public sector telecommunication companies have failed to provide quality services to their customers, as the number of complaints being filed by the customers with regard to call drops, bad communication service and less than expected broadband speed are on the rise; and

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) monitors the performance of service providers, including Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), against the benchmarks for various quality of service parameters laid down by TRAI in the Quality of Service (QoS) Regulations issued from time to time through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs) submitted by service providers for the service area as a whole.

As per PMR for the quarter ending March 2018, for Cellular Mobile Telephone Services, BSNL is meeting benchmarks for all parameters in all of its Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) except West Bengal service area. In West Bengal LSA, BSNL is meeting benchmarks for all parameters except the parameter for assessing call drop viz "Network\_QoS Dropped Call Rate (DCR) Spatial distribution measure or DCR Network\_QSD(90,90) (benchmark <= 2%)", and "Network QoS DCR temporal distribution

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.