

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*241. [*The Questioner was absent.*]

Production and sale of coal by Singareni Collieries

*241. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Singareni Collieries has not increased the production and sale of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether less production of coal is directly affecting the power production in the neighbouring States; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by Government to increase the production of coal and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Singareni Collieries Co. Limited (SCCL) has increased its production of coal from 50.47 MT in 2013-14 to 62.01 MT in 2017-18 (four years) resulting in an absolute increase of 11.54 MT as compared to increase of coal production of 0.04 MT between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (four years).

Further, in the current year during April-December, 2018, coal production of SCCL was 45.58 MT with a growth rate of 8.6% over the corresponding period of previous year.

The Off-take/sale of coal from SCCL during last five years is given below:—

Year	Total Offtake/Sale (in MT)	Growth %
2013-14	47.94	
2014-15	52.72	10.0%
2015-16	58.72	11.4%
2016-17	60.82	3.6%
2017-18	64.62	6.2%

There has been progressive growth in offtake and sale from SCCL sources. SCCL has increased its coal offtake from 47.94 MT in 2013-14 to 64.62 MT in 2017-18 (four years) resulting in an absolute increase of 16.68 MT. Whereas the offtake for

the period between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (four years) had declined by 1.43 MT from 49.37 MT in 2009-10 to 47.94 MT in 2013-14.

In the year 2018-19 (till December 2018), SCCL have registered a growth of 5.2% in coal offtake by achieving a dispatch of 47.51 Million tonnes against a dispatch of 46.68 Million tonnes achieved during same period of previous year.

(c) During this fiscal upto November 2018, against the total Coal based Power Generation program of 663.60 Billion units, actual generation has been about 658 Billion units, thereby achieving 99.2% materialization of program and registering a growth of 5.5% over last year same period. Further, the generation by domestic coal based power plants was 605.01 BU, which was 101 % of program generation. This has been possible due to increased supply of coal to the power sector. During April-Nov 2018, SCCL has supplied 35.04 MT of coal to power sector in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Telangana at a growth of more than 3.5% compared to the supply of 33.87 MT in the corresponding period of last year.

As per CEA report coal stock at Power House end as on 01.01.2019 is 16.65 MT as against the stock of 13.17 MT on 01.01.2018 thereby registering an increase of 26.40%.

(d) In order to enhance coal production, the focus of the Government is on increasing domestic production of coal which includes efforts to expedite Environment and Forest clearances expeditiously, pursuing with State Government for assistance in land acquisition and coordinated efforts with Railways for movement of coal. In SCCL, new technologies are being introduced to increase the production of coal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sanjay Raut is absent. Any supplementary questions?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I would like to know this from the Minister, Shri Piyush Goyal, who's a dynamic personality. Ever since he has taken up the portfolio for coal, he has substantially increased coal production. But recently an impression has been given that coal production has gone down, and due to this power generation is actually suffering. I would like to know whether you are still importing coal and whether you are able to sustain domestic coal production to see that power generation is not affected.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Mr. Chairman, first of all, I am delighted because this is the first time that I am getting an opportunity to answer a question in the House. Thank you very much.

Mr. Subbarami Reddy may well be aware that coal production by CIL in the current year, up to December, which was three days back, has increased by 7.4 per cent on a nine-month basis compared to previous year. In the last four years from 2014-18, we have been able to increase coal production by more than 104 MT by Coal India Limited alone, as compared to an increase of about 31-32 MT in the period of four years before that. This Government is very conscious of the growing requirement of coal and we have continuously increased the production.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: There is no shortage. The power generation is 99 per cent of what was slated and I am happy to share it with the hon. Members. As regards imports, in 2014-15, the country was importing about 217 MT. Last year, we imported 208 MT, lower than what it was earlier despite the increase..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. I said it yesterday that Ministers are also starving and they want to give additional information. Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia. *...(Interruptions)...* They are starving without any opportunity. *...(Interruptions)...* Long or wrong, that will be seen later. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I am sorry. If Mr. Jairam Ramesh would like to correct anything which is wrong in what I said, I think *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Piyush Goyal, you have to go by the Chair. *...(Interruptions)...* Did I ask him *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, he has made an allegation. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who? *...(Interruptions)...* Nothing has gone on record. *...(Interruptions)...* People sit and talk. *...(Interruptions)...* It is not going on record. Why do you worry? *...(Interruptions)...* रिकॉर्ड में जो आता है, उसका समाधान देना है।

SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Hon. Chairman, will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the country does not have sufficient reserves of coal and needs to rely on imports to fulfill domestic needs of power sector and the steps taken by the Government to enhance production and quality of coal to improve supply of coal to power sector?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Be crisp because every Minister wants to give reply and there are 15 questions.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, but he has asked two questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are supposed to answer only one question.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, domestic requirement of coal comprises of coking coal and thermal coal. India has sufficient reserves of thermal coal, but it does not have sufficient reserves of coking coal. Most of the reserves for several decades are under fire in Jharia and Raniganj. As far as imported coal is concerned, the country will continue to import coal for many years.

As regards thermal coal, over the past many years until 2014, coal production was not growing at the pace at which demand of coal was growing and you can see how coal import started about ten years ago and continuously kept increasing. Coal production did not go up because environmental clearances were not given on time. It did not go up because land acquisition was not done on time. Various reasons were there. Because of that, in the earlier period, a number of power plants were set up which were dependent only on imported coal. They are designed for imported coal. Now, even if we increase production to a billion tonnes, there are many plants which will only require imported coal because they cannot take fly-ash coal and these plants are set up in remote areas, in the coast, where it is uneconomical to transport domestic coal. Further, there are many plants which need to blend with imported coal. So, imports was *per force* imposed on this country; for almost decades, which could have been avoided if planning was done in a better way.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, Mr. Minister. Now, Question No.242. See, we have to make a distinction between a debate and a question. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am telling all. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, I have to tell you that this is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I tell everybody.

Criteria for declaring MSP for crops

*242. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cost of factors like land, labour, fertilizers, diesel, etc., taken into account while deciding cost of production for declaring MSP for wheat and paddy during current year, along with factor-wise cost thereof; and

(b) the total cost of production taken into account for declaring MSP for Rabi and Kharif crops during 2018 along with the MSP declared, crop-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.