

In order to enhance coal production, CIL has taken the following steps:

- Opening of 55 greenfield projects having capacity of 92 MTPA and expansion of 193 brownfield projects having capacity of about 310 MTPA in next five years.
- Portal based monitoring of on-going projects to ensure timely completion of projects.
- Introduction of state of the art technology to improve its work efficiency with high capacity Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM), like 42 cum Shovel and 240 T Rear Dumpers in Gevra Expansion, Dipka and Kasmunda open cast mines.
- Introduction of Surface Miners in opencast mines to improve operational efficiency and to cater to environmental needs. During 2018-19 in CIL, around 50% of the opencast coal production was through Surface miners.
- Introduction of IT enabled Operator Independent Truck Dispatch System (OITDS) in 11 nos. of mines of CIL.
- Introduction of Mass Production Technology in underground coal mines, 2 mines are worked with Powered Support Longwall technology and 9 mines are worked with Continuous Miner technology.
- For rapid coal evacuation, 19 nos. Coal Handling Plants with silos and rapid loading system having existing capacity of 152.5 million tonnes are in operation.

Purchase of defence equipments

1446. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government buys highest number of Defence equipments from USA and Israel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the other countries from which Defence equipments are bought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Capital procurement of defence equipment is undertaken from various domestic as well as foreign vendors, based on operational requirements of the Armed Forces, the availability or capacity to produce the equipment in India and abroad, to keep

the Armed Forces in a state of readiness to meet the entire spectrum of security challenges.

During last three financial years (2016-17 to 2018-19), 58 contracts have been placed on foreign vendors out of which 23 contracts have been signed with USA and Israel for capital procurement of defence equipment for the Indian Defence Forces.

The other major countries from which defence equipment have been procured include Russia, France and United Kingdom.

Violations of the LoC by Pakistan

†1447. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times Pakistan has violated the Line of Control (LoC) after the abrogation of the Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) the details of action taken in retaliation to the actions of Pakistan and the number of Pakistani-posts destroyed by-Indian Army?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) There have been 950 incidents of Ceasefire Violations along Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir region during the last three months (August to October, 2019).

(b) Appropriate retaliation to the ceasefire violations, as required, has been carried out by Indian Army. Also all violations of ceasefire and infiltration are taken up with Pakistan authorities at the appropriate level through the established mechanism of hotlines, flag meetings, Directorate General of Military Operations talks as well as diplomatic channels between the two countries.

Performance of HAL

1448. SHRI MATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite challenges, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has achieved significant growth in revenue and profits in 2017-18;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.