

- c. Mine water management
- d. Sustainable Overburden Management
- e. Sustainable Mine Tourism
- f. Planning and Monitoring
- g. Policy, Research, Education, and Dissemination

(c) Consultation with Public Sector coal companies which includes Coal India Ltd. & its subsidiaries, NLC India Ltd. and Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. have been completed and Sustainable Development Cells have also been set up by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries.

The Sustainable Development cell will adopt a systemic approach, starting from collection of data, analysis of data, presentation of information, planning based on information by domain experts, adoption of best practices, consultations, innovative thinking, site-specific approaches, knowledge sharing and dissemination and finally end with an aim to ease the lives of people and communities in general.

Annual production of coal

†15. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of active coal mines in the private as well as public sector of the country and the overall annual production thereof; and

(b) whether the said production is in the line with the country's overall annual demand for the same, if not, the details of the steps taken by Government to increase the production according to its demand which is set to grow in future?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) As on 01/04/2019, a total 454 of coal mines were active in private and public sector. The overall annual coal production in the country during 2018-19 was 730.35 MT.

(b) Demand of coal is higher than the current level of supply of coal in the country. The entire demand of coal is not met from domestic production as the supply of high quality coal/ coking coal (low-ash-coal) in the country is limited and thus no option is left but to resort to import of coking coal. Further, coal imported by

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

power plants designed on imported coal and high grade coal required for blending purposes cannot be substituted by domestic coal.

In order to increase coal production, the focus of the Government is on accelerating domestic production of coal through allocation of more coal blocks, pursuing with State Government for assistance in land acquisition and coordinated efforts with Railways for movement of coal.

Further, for sale of coal, allowing 100% FDI for coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure is expected to attract international players and create efficient and competitive coal market.

Steps taken up for growth in coal sector which are expected to result in enhanced coal production.

Methodology for allowing allocatees of coal mines for specified end use or own consumption to sell upto 25% of actual production in open market (RoM basis) with payment of additional premium on such sale has been approved by CCEA on 19.02.2019 and order has been issued on 07.03.2019. Under this methodology, 10 mines have been allocated in the year 2019.

Mineral Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020, has enabled the allocation of coal blocks Tor composite Prospecting License-cum-Mining Lease (PL-cum-ML) which will help in increasing of the inventory of coal/ lignite blocks for allocation.

- With the promulgation of Mineral Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020, the repetitive and redundant provision requiring previous approval of Central Government even in cases where the allocation or reservation of coal/ lignite block has been made by the Central Government itself has been done away with. This would significantly reduce the time taken for operationalisation of coal/ lignite mines.
- Earlier, the mines in Schedule II and III of Coal Mines Special Provision (CMSP) Act could only be auctioned to companies that are engaged in specified end use. With the promulgation of Minerals Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 has provided flexibility to the Central Government in deciding the end use of Schedule II and III coal mines under the CMSP Act. This would allow wider participation in auction of Schedule II and

III coal mines, for a variety of purposes such as own consumption, sale or for any other purpose, as may be specified by the Central Government.

- Sections 4(2) and 5(1) of the CMSP Act and Section 11A of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act have been amended now clarifying that any company selected through auction/ allotment can carry on coal mining operation for own consumption, sale or for any other purposes, as may be specified by the Central Government allowing wider participation and competition in auction. Thus, the companies which do not possess any prior coal mining experience in India can now participate in auction of coal blocks.

In order to enhance its coal production, Coal India Limited 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&Kusmunda open cast mines.
- Introduction of Surface Miners in opencast mines to improve operational efficiency & 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.