

Status of coal reserves in our country

8. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the coal reserves of our country is speedily reducing;
- (b) if so, the amount of coal reserve in our country;
- (c) whether the reducing coal reserve is threatening the future of thermal power projects in our country; and
- (d) the possibilities of exploring new coal mines in our country?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) to (b) No Sir. The explored coal reserves in the country is not reducing. About 4 to 6 billion tonnes of proved coal resources are added against total coal extraction of about 0.7 Billion Tonnes in a year at present. The proved coal resources in the country is about 155.6 billion tonnes as on 01.04.2019.

(c) Not applicable in view of (a).

(d) In order to identify new coal mines, Ministry of Coal has made a program of 1.35 Lakh metre of drilling with a fund provision of ₹ 90 Crore for exploration of additional coal reserves in the country.

Shortage of coal mines

9. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to identify new coal mines to cope up with coal shortage in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the details of coal production and consumption in the country, during the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) In order to cope up with coal shortage in the country, Ministry of Coal has allocated coal blocks for various captive purposes. Further, Government owned coal companies have also been advised to increase coal production. Accordingly, Coal India Limited (CIL) has identified 55 nos. of coal projects having estimated capacity of about 399 Million