

- (iii) The Government has reviewed Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy in the coal mining allowing 100% Foreign Direct Investment under automatic route for sale of coal, coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure.
- (iv) Amendments have been made in the MMDR Act and the CMSP Act to ensure wider participation and competition in auction of coal mines. The amendments in the Acts would enable the following:
- Allocation of coal blocks for composite prospecting license-cum-mining lease which will help in increasing of the inventory of coal/lignite blocks for allocation.
  - 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 Govt. itself has been done away with.
  - Provided flexibility to the Central Govt. in deciding the end use of Schedule II and III coal mines under the CMSP Act.
  - Companies which do not possess any prior coal mining experience in India can now participate in auction of coal blocks.

(d) Under the provisions of CMSP Act, any prior allottee who is convicted of an offence relating to coal block allocation and sentenced with imprisonment for more than three years is not eligible to participate in the auction. Further, auction of coal mines under the provisions of CMSP Act has been done on electronic platform after conducting security audit of the e-platform. The e-auction consists of two stage bidding process, Initial Price Offer (along with Technical Bid) and Final Price Offer with minimum human intervention involving:

- Submission of encrypted price offers,
- Opening of technical bids in front of Bidders, and
- Declaration of technically Qualified Bidders in Public

#### **Decline in power generation due to shortage of coal**

2404. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Coal India Limited has adequate reserves to supply coal to power plants of the country; and

(b) whether it is a fact that due to acute shortage of coal in power plants in various States, power generation has gone down, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) Coal India Limited has adequate reserves to supply coal to power plants of the country. Opening vendible coal stock of Coal India Limited as on 01.04.19 was 54.15 Million Tonnes (MT). There is no dearth of coal availability to Power Houses from Coal India Limited end. As on 08.03.2020, pit head stock at Power House end stands at 39.007 MT, equivalent to consumption of 22 days. In addition to the above, coal stock at Coal India Limited pit-head stands at 47.99 MT (as on 08.03.2020).

(b) The power demand is met mainly by generation from thermal, hydro and nuclear resources. The generation from coal based thermal power plants, therefore, varies depending upon demand and generation from other sources. Thermal Power Plants requisition coal as per their requirement *i.e.* when power demand rises, requirement of coal at the power plants increases accordingly.

Further, the power plants are to maintain normative coal stock for use during high demand period and/or when supply of coal from CIL/SCCL is less. During current year 2019-20 (April 2019 to January 2020), the Total coal receipt by the power plants in the country was about 524.5 MT against the consumption of about 519.8 MT. Further, the coal stock available with the power plants in the country has also increased from 34.6 MT as on 31.03.2019 to 39.007 MT as on 08.03.2020.

#### **Increase in CIL's receivables from power companies**

2405. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited's receivables from several power companies has increased 53 per cent since April, 2019 to ₹12,400 crore in January, 2020;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating pending dues, company-wise; and

(c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to recover due amount from several power companies for Coal India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) to (c) Outstanding dues of Coal India Limited (CIL) from Power Sector stood at ₹ 8435.19 crore as on 31.03.2019