

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.35  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021**

**Shortage due to insufficient coal supply**

**35. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:**

**Will the Minister of Coal be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the supply of coal was insufficient which led to shortage in the months of September and October 2021;
- (b) if so, the possible reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the supply chain of coal was affected due to lockdown related restrictions; and
- (d) the steps taken to resolve this crisis?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES**

**(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)**

**(a) & (b):** There was no shortage of domestic coal to Power sector. In fact, Coal India Limited (CIL), the largest supplier of coal to the Power Sector, has dispatched around 54 Million Tonnes (MT) more coal during April-October'21 in comparison to the same period of last year. CIL has dispatched 291.72 MT coal during this period, against 237.75 MT during the same period of last fiscal. However, due to increased demand of power, less power generation by imported coal based power plants and some interruption in supply of coal due to heavy rains, the coal stock at the power plants depleted to 7.2 MT (sufficient for 4 days) as on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2021. Subsequently with increased coal supplies, the coal stock has started increasing and has now reached 16.6 MT (sufficient for 9 days) as on 24.11.2021. Besides this, the coal stock at CIL pithead end is 32.30 MT as on 24.11.2021. Hence there is no coal shortage.

**(c):** Coal supply chain has not been significantly affected due to lockdown restrictions and as mentioned above, CIL has supplied rather more coal to power Houses during this period.

**(d) :** The coal supply to power plants in the month of November 2021 is more than the consumption, resulting in increase in coal stock at power plants end. This trend is likely to continue in the coming months. The coal supply to Power Plants is also monitored and reviewed by the Sub-Group comprising of representatives of Ministry of Coal, Power, Railway, Central Electricity Authority(CEA), Coal India Limited(CIL), Singareni Collieries Company Limited(SCCL) regularly.

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