

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2758  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28/03/2022

Coal production target

2758. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the target fixed by the Coal India Limited (CIL) for the production of coal during the current year;
- (b) whether the production of coal is sufficient to cater to the needs of power sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to improve the coal production in the country?

Answer

**MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, COAL AND MINES**  
**(SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI)**

(a): During the current year 2021-22, the coal production target of Coal India Limited (CIL) has been fixed at 670 Million Tonnes (MT).

(b)&(c): In 2021-22 (upto 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022), Coal India Limited (CIL) has dispatched 506.29 MT, with a 23% growth over last year. Similarly, SCCL and captive coal blocks have dispatched 50.38 MT and 77.5 MT coal to power sector (upto 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022) which is 34.2% and 40% more than the same period of last year.

Coal supplies to power sector is being regularly monitored by an Inter-Ministerial Sub Group comprising of representatives from Ministries of Power, Ministry of Coal, Ministry of Railways, Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Coal India Limited (CIL), Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and NTPC etc. to take various operational decisions to enhance supply of coal to thermal power plants as well as for meeting any contingent situations relating to Power Sector including to alleviate critical coal stock position in power plants.

(d): 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.

In addition, the following action has been taken by Government to further enhance the production of the coal in the country.

1. **Commercial Auction of coal on revenue share mechanism:** Since Launch of auction of coal mines for commercial mining in June 2020, a total of 4 rounds of auction have been conducted in which total 292 coal mines were offered. In 3 rounds, 42 coal mines have been successfully

auctioned. Further, in respect of 4<sup>th</sup> round of auction, bids were opened on 02.03.2022 and 2 or more bids have been received in respect of 5 coal mines and 6 coal mines have fetched single bids.

2. **Allowed sale of excess coal production:** The Ministry of Coal has amended Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 with a view to allowing sale of coal or lignite, on payment of additional amount to the State Government, by the lessee of a captive mine up to 50 percent of the total coal or lignite produced in a financial year, after meeting the requirement of the end use plant linked with the mine. Earlier this year, the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act had been amended to this effect. This is applicable for both the private and public sector captive mines. With this amendment, the Government has paved the way for releasing of additional coal in the market by greater utilization of mining capacities of captive coal and lignite blocks, which were being only partly utilized owing to limited production of coal for meeting only their captive needs.
3. **Rolling auction:** In order to expedite the process for conducting auction and to carry out more rounds of auction in a year, a mechanism of rolling auctions of coal mines has been planned. Under this mechanism, upon completion of the electronic auction process of a tranche, the next tranche of auction would be launched for following mines:
  - i. Mines where no bid or only single bid was received in the previous tranche of auction (except for those mines where Ministry of Coal decides to go for second attempt of auction)
  - ii. New mines, if any, identified by Ministry of Coal
4. **Single Window Clearance:** The Union government has launched Single Window Clearance portal on 11.01.2021 for the coal sector to speed up the operationalisation of coal mines. It is an unified platform that facilitates grant of clearances and approvals required for starting a coal mine in India. Now, the complete process shall be facilitated through Single Window Clearance Portal, which will map not only the relevant application formats, but also process flow for grant of approvals or clearances.
5. Coal India Limited (CIL) has envisaged a coal production programme of one Billion Tonne from CIL mines. CIL has taken the following steps to achieve the target of augmentation of coal production capacity.
  - i. 15 Projects identified with a Capacity of about 160 MTPA (Million Tonnes per Annum) to be operated by Mine Developer cum Operator mode.
  - ii. Capacity addition through special dispensation in Environment Clearance under clause 7(ii) of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) 2006
  - iii. CIL has taken steps to upgrade the mechanized coal transportation and loading system under 'First Mile Connectivity' projects.