

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF COAL  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2440  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2022**

**National Coal Index**

**2440. SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI:**

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

- (a) the details of the proposed National Coal Index which would link coal prices directly to foreign indices and would also measure the value and volume of all coal transactions;
- (b) the time by which Government plans to roll out such an index;
- (c) whether India would have separate index for coking coal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the manner in which Government plans to address the issues that the domestic coal is suffering from such quality issues at mines?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) As of now, there is no plan to revise national coal index which would link prices directly to foreign indices and would also measure the value and volume of all coal transactions.
- (b) to (c) Does not arise in view of reply above.
- (d) Indian Coal is largely heterogeneous in nature due to its drift origin and susceptible to quality variation within the same seam. For maintaining quality of coal, following steps are taken:
  - i. Adoption of blast free mining techniques.
  - ii. Utilization of mechanical scraping to remove extraneous materials from coal seam.
  - iii. Adoption of mechanical coal handling from mines to the loading points in the First Mile Connectivity projects.
  - iv. For consistent sized coal supply, use of surface miner in open cast mines are being deployed where ever it is technically and economically feasible and in case of Under Ground mines, Continuous miners Side discharge loader (SDL), Load haul dumper (LHD) and Long wall method are being adopted.

- v. Adequate crushing capacity and utilization of mobile crushers for supply of sized coal to the consumers.
- vi. For reducing contamination of extraneous material in coal, the shell and stone band is mined and eliminated separately wherever possibly depending on thickness of band.

Now, all the consumers of CIL have the option for quality assessment of the supplies through independent third-party sampling agencies.

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