

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:433
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2014
SHORTAGE OF COAL SUPPLY TO POWER PLANTS
Jadhav Shri Sanjay Haribhau

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of coal based power plants are reeling under acute shortage of coal with stocks lasting for less than four days, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) the names of such plants along with the quantum of coal required and actually supplied to them by the Coal India Limited during the last six months;
- (c) whether the Government has constituted an inter-ministerial sub-group to undertake comprehensive review of the coal supplies to power sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the operational decisions taken by the subgroup since then?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR POWER, COAL AND NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO.433 TO BE ANSWERED IN THE LOK SABHA ON 07.08.2014 REGARDING SHORTAGE OF COAL SUPPLY TO POWER PLANTS.

(a) : As on 30th July 2014, out of the coal based power stations monitored on daily basis by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), 23 power plants are having coal stock less than 4 days. The details of these power plants are enclosed at Annex-I. The reasons for low coal stock at power plant, inter alia, are:

(i) Due to deficient monsoon, the hydro generation has reduced considerably, thus requiring enhanced generation from coal based stations. Due to this, coal requirement has increased. During June 2014, there was a record growth rate of 20.35% in coal based generation as compared to last year during the same month.

(ii) Difficulties faced in supply of coal from subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) due to various issues such as law & order at State level, availability of transport, etc.

(b) : Details of Contracted coal quantity (prorata) and coal supplied to aforementioned power plants during last six months i.e. January - June 2014 is at Annex-II.

(c) & (d) : An Inter-Ministerial sub-group has been constituted comprising representatives of Ministries of Coal, Power & Railways, Planning Commission, Central Electricity Authority, Coal India Limited, Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. and other stakeholders to review the weekly coal production, despatch, coal stock at power stations etc.

The operational decisions taken in the Inter Ministerial sub-group meeting, inter-alia, are:-

1. Coal company wise rail as well as MGR's (Merry-go-round) average loading was reviewed and decisions were taken for addressing the prevailing issues so that loading to power sector could be enhanced.
2. Coal companies where average loading was less were directed to enhance the same.
3. Coal stock position of power stations having critical/ super- critical coal stock were discussed and Ministry of Railways was advised to provide additional rakes wherever required.
4. In the event of any call for strike, bandh or natural calamity, etc., Contingency Plans were developed and monitored by this sub-group.