

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2776
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2018

Steel grade coking coal

2776. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

Will the **MINISTER OF COAL** be pleased to state :

- (a) the extent of exploration to unearth steel grade coking coal in the country;
- (b) how much budget has been allocated towards the above and the present status of ongoing projects;
- (c) the reasons for steel plants purchasing coal blocks from international suppliers, resulting in fluctuation in importing prices, which affects steel prices in the country; and
- (d) whether Coal India Limited (CIL) is importing coking coal (steel grade) from abroad, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COAL, FINANCE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a): As per the 'National Inventory of Coal' published by Geological Survey of India (GSI), the coking coal resources in the country as on 01.04.2018 is **34,522.46** million tonne.

(b): No specific budget has been exclusively allotted for exploration of coking coal in the country. However, under the Central Sector Scheme for regional/ promotional exploration and detailed exploration of coal/lignite in non-CIL blocks, budget of Rs. 500 Crore has been allotted by the Government for the financial year 2018-19. In the CIL coal blocks, the cost of exploration is borne by the concerned subsidiary companies of CIL.

(c): Steel is deregulated sector and matters regarding purchase of coal blocks are a commercial decision of the individual companies. It is further mentioned that the steel companies are importing coal to bridge the gap between total coking coal requirement and indigenous availability both in quantitative and qualitative terms.

(d): Coal India Limited (CIL) is not importing any coal.
