

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COAL

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3251
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2018

Adoption of new technology for various coal sector activities.

3251. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

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

- (a) Whether it is a fact that steps towards adoption of new technology for conversion of coal to fertilizer and methanol, exploration of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) and coal mine Methane (CMM) and underground coal gasification have not moved beyond the planning stage; and
- (b) if so, the details of all activities for adoption of new technology during the last three year-wise ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL
(SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) &(b): The steps taken towards adoption of new technology for conversion of coal to fertilizer and methanol, exploration of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) and Coal Mine Methane (CMM) and underground coal gasification are as mentioned below:

1. NITI Aayog has set up two cells **(1) on Coal Gasification & (2) on Methanol Economy**, which includes production of methanol from coal.

2. The following strategy with time-line has been outlined:

Stage 1: (2017-19):

- R&D pilot plant to capture complete coal to methanol indigenous technology (Proof of Concept level).
- Work on R&D on key areas having impact on costs.
- Generation of blueprint for 100 tonne per day (tpd) plant.

Stage 2: (2017-2023)

- Establish 100 tpd plant
- Generate blueprint for 1500-5000 tpd plants.

Stage 3: (2023-2030)

- Set up 1500-5000 TPD plants at different coal mine mouths
- Achieve 40 Million Tonne per annum (MTPA) objective by 2030.

3. Coal India Limited (CIL) along with GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL), Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL), is involved in revival of the Talcher

fertilizer plant through a JV company, Talcher Fertilizers Ltd. Lump-Sum-Turnkey (LSTK) NIT for Coal Gasification using Shell technology has been floated with bid submission date of 28th March, 2018.

4. CIL is engaged in exploring setting up of a commercial scale coal to methanol plant in the premises of its Dankuni Low Temperature Carbonization plant. Five coal gasification technologies have been pre-qualified through a global Expression of Interest (EOI). M/s Projects and Development India Limited (PDIL) has submitted Pre-Feasibility Report for implementation of the project in total Lump-Sum-Turnkey basis to Coal India Limited.
5. An area under mining leasehold of BCCL in Jharia Coalfield of Jharkhand has been identified for extraction of coal bed methane. Project Feasibility Report has been prepared based on techno-economic studies done by International Expert.
6. Ministry of Coal has reserved Dipside Tadkeshware & Dungra and Dipside of Valia & Rajpardi lignite blocks in Gujarat in favour of NLC India Limited (NLCIL) for the purpose of Underground Coal Gasification (UCG). NLCIL has invited bid for "Technical feasibility study and UCG Pilot Project" in these Lignite blocks.
