

Executive Summary

The Ministry of Coal is entrusted with the responsibility of the scientific exploitation of the Coal and Lignite reserves, and determination of policies and strategies for the exploration of Coal and Lignite reserves to ensure energy security in the country. The performance of the Coal Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in terms of Coal and Lignite production has been good. Keeping in view the robust growth in the Indian economy, Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies are striving to do their best to increase coal production despite the difficult conditions existing in several coal fields and also keeping in view the constraint faced by the nation of the need to strike an appropriate balance between the energy needs of the country and the environmental concerns associated with coal mining and by taking appropriate steps to address these concerns.

The Outcome Budget of Ministry of Coal for the year 2011-12 begins with an introduction about the mandate, the functions and the activities, and organizational structure of the Ministry of Coal including the subordinate offices and statutory bodies.

Thereafter, the Outcome Budget while detailing the Budget Estimates and the Plan Outlay of the Ministry of Coal and Coal PSUs, also brings out the quantifiable deliverables and physical outputs along with the timelines for both the Plan and Non Plan schemes operated in the Ministry of Coal. The new initiatives and policy measures with regard to the New Coal Distribution Policy, the e-auction scheme, revision in the Coal Royalty Rates, the formation of International Coal Ventures Limited (a Special Purpose Vehicle of Central Public Sector Undertakings including Coal India Limited) ; acquisition of two coal blocks in Mozambique; disinvestment of 10 % of CIL holdings through

IPO etc. have also been brought out in the Outcome Budget 2011-12 . In addition, the Outcome Budget also addresses the issues relating to measures to increase coal production through the Emergency Coal Production Plan and the scheme of Captive Coal Block allocation.

The document also presents a review of the past performance of Coal PSUs in terms of physical output and expenditure against Capital Outlay including the schemes being operated under the Ministry of Coal, in addition to a review of the schemes administered by the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation – an autonomous body of the Ministry of Coal. The Outcome Budget also gives inputs in detail about the six Plan schemes being operated by the Ministry of Coal through budgetary support.

In order to encourage transparency and facilitate easy accessibility to the public and the coal consumers at large, the following measures have been put in place:

- (i) All the important circulars and policies are made available on the website of the Ministry of Coal. This includes the status of all long term coal linkages approved for various coal consumers in the power, cement and steel sectors and details of coal blocks allotted /to be allotted to the approved end users for captive consumption.
- (ii) The Budget Estimates and the Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Coal are also available on the official website of the Ministry.
- (iii) A Facilitation Center is operating in the Ministry to assist and help information seekers on the activities of the Ministry.
- (iv) In addition, the Coal PSUs also have their own websites to facilitate information dissemination.

- (v) Under the Right to Information Act, Central Public Information Officers have been appointed along with apex Appellate Authority to facilitate easy access to the public in general seeking information about the activities of the Ministry of Coal.

The major coal projects in respect of Coal India Limited (CIL), Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited (NLC) are monitored through the quarterly progress review meetings held under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) and wherever there is slow pace of implementation, the reasons are analyzed and remedial measures taken to speed up their implementation as per targeted schedules. In addition Minister of Coal reviews the activities of the PSUs and the Ministry of Coal to ensure that the policies are being implemented in right earnest and bottlenecks, if any encountered, are effectively sorted out so that the activities progress towards achieving the overall policy objectives.