

COAL RESOURCE SCENARIO OF INDIA

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(As on 1.1.2007)

The coal resource potentiality of the country is continuously being refined. The present updated geological resource of coal (including mined out resource) of the country as per the latest national inventory as on 01-01-2007 stands at **2,55,172.40** million tonne up to the depth of 1200m which is **1,870.74** m.t. more than that of the previous year. It has been upgraded through detailed and regional exploratory efforts of the different exploring agencies viz. GSI, CMPDI, SCCL, MECL and DGM Maharashtra in the coalfields of Raniganj, North Karanpura, West Bokaro, Rajmahal, Singrauli, Hasdo-Arand, Wardha Valley, Kamthi and Godavari Valley. Out of the total resources, Gondwana coalfields contribute **2,54,230.16** m.t. while **942.24** m.t. is the contribution from Tertiary coal.

The updated 'Proved' resource of the country is 97,920.00 m.t., while that of 'Indicated' and 'Inferred' categories are 1,18,992.07 m.t. and 38,260.33 m.t. respectively. An increment of 2,053.64 m.t. in 'Proved' resource, 594.35 m.t. in 'Inferred' resource and, overall decrease of 777.25 m.t. in 'Indicated' resource is the net outcome of recategorisation and detailed and regional (including promotional) exploration.

State-wise distribution shows that Jharkhand with 74.3 b.t. of coal resource is followed by Orissa (62 b.t.), Chhattisgarh (41.5 b.t.) and West. Bengal (28.3 b.t) respectively

Nearly 50% of the total coal resource of the country is shared by the coalfields of Talcher (39.6 b.t.), Raniganj (25.5 b.t.), Ib-River (22.4 b.t.), Jharia (19.4 b.t.) and Mand-Raigarh (19.10 b.t.). Godavari Valley (17.46 b.t.), North Karanpura (15.86 b.t.), Rajmahal (14.12 b.t.), Singrauli (12.91 b.t) and Korba (10.12b.t) coalfields also contain substantial resource.

The type-wise break up of Gondwana coal reveals that coking and non-coking coal of the country are 32,275.87 m.t. and 221,954.29 m.t. respectively while the Tertiary coal, which is mainly of High Sulphur type is 942.24 m.t.

Depth-wise, while 1,55,746.82 million tonne of resource has been established up to 300m depth from surface, 66464.49 m.t. was between 300m and 600m depths. Jharia coalfield, in addition, contains 14,212.42 m.t. up to 600m depth. The total coal resource between 600m and 1200m depth levels stands at 18,748.67m.t.

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