

(c) whether any licences for the import of melton cloth have been issued since April 1968?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

OUTPUT OF COAL

680. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) the grade-wise output of coal during the last year With their percentage to the total output;

(b) the relationship of grade-wise output with the estimated resources of respective grades of coal;

(c) whether it is a fact that production of higher grades of coal accounts for over 60% per cent of the total output of coal as against their reserves being estimated at 7 to 8 per cent of the total known reserves ; and

(d) the steps being taken to remove the imbalance in the output resources relationship and to conserve superior grades of coal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) A statement showing grade-wise production of coal and their percentage to total output during 1967-68 is enclosed.

(b) to (d) The grade-wise resources of coal have not yet been completely assessed. During the year 1967-68, the production of selected grades of coal accounts for only 19 per cent of the total coal output.

The reserves of superior grades of coal in India are expected to last for several decades. However, in order to conserve superior grades of coal, the Coal Board is taking several steps like stowing, protective measures to prevent flooding of mines etc. under the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) 3—54 R. S./68

Act, 1952. Besides, steps have also been taken for adoption of scientific methods in mining as well as in utilisation of coal and setting up of washeries for washing lower grades of coal.

STATEMENT

(In million tonnes)

Grades	Production	Percentage to total Production
Selected A	6.334	9.2
Selected B	6.785	9.9
Grade I	31.457	45.9
Grade II	11.622	17.0
Grade III A	2.316	3.4
Grade III B	3.746	5.5
Singareni	4.077	5.9
Non-graded	2.182	3.2
TOTAL :	68.519	100.0

ALLOCATION OF VARIOUS GRADES OF COAL

681. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the position regarding the schedule of allocation of various grades of coal for consumption in power plant industries and brick manufacturing units ;

(b) whether there has been any relaxation in the allocation of the grades resulting in the use of coals of higher grades than before by the above categories of consumers ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure the proper use of the coal resources in the long term interests of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c) Prior to decontrol of coal in July 1967, the allocation of different grades of coal to various industries including the power plants and brick manufacturing units