

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Mizoram				
23.	Nagaland				
24.	Odisha	14261.23	19821.06	19821.08	53903.37
25.	Puducherry	26.33	129.14	154.30	309.77
26.	Punjab				
27.	Rajasthan	36611.93	107620.77	107620.77	251853.47
28.	Sikkim	0.74	0.14	0.14	1.02
29.	Tamil Nadu	29494.29	47245.64	47310.17	124200.28
30.	Telangana	12224.02	9590.54	9590.54	31405.10
31.	Tripura	28.52	5.19	5.19	38.89
32.	Uttar Pradesh	45129.83	29340.76	29340.76	103811.35
33.	Uttarakhand	1956.06	1101.23	1101.23	4158.52
34.	West Bengal	23294.19	24067.19	25600.90	72962.28
TOTAL		440374.47	885166.55	904056.81	2200375.66

Bringing down import of coal by thermal plants

*9. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is aiming to bring down to zero the coal imports of thermal power plants of Public Sector Undertakings in the current financial year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this move would reduce the country's import bill by about ₹ 17,000 crore; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to convince private companies operating in the power sector to totally stop the import of thermal fossil fuel, if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Domestic coal availability in the power plants has improved in the country during the last 2-3 years which has resulted in decline of thermal coal import by power plants. However, thermal power plants designed on imported coal do import and will continue to import coal for power generation.

From 2015-16 onwards, Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has taken initiative for substitution of imported coal with domestic coal, and based on one-on-one interaction with power

generators has devised strategy of substitution of imported coal with domestic coal. In the last three years, the fall in thermal coal import for domestic coal based power plants is given in the table below:

Year	Import by domestic coal based power plants (in MT)	Reduction in import (in %)
2014-15	48.5	
2015-16	37.1	(-) 23.50
2016-17	19.8	(-) 46.63
2017-18 (April-Oct.)	9.6	(-) 26.71*

* reduction over the same period of 2016-17.

(c) CIL has taken many steps for promotion of import substitution through:

- Source rationalization of part linkage from higher grade coal sources;
- Offer of coal, including higher grade coal, through various types of e-auction including Special Forward e-Auction;
- Introduction of flexibility in terms of auction, e.g. flexi tenure of lifting, reduction of EMD and floor price to cater to requirement of various consumers including TPPs not having FSA with CIL sources;
- Sanction of coal linkages under provisions of SHAKTI policy of the Government for meeting the demand of various categories of power utilities including IPPs.

Extending the benefit of reduction in GST rates to consumers

†*10. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the benefit of reduction in the rates of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on almost 200 items is extended with immediate effect to the consumers;

(b) whether any action has been taken so far against any shopkeepers or companies for not extending the benefit of reduced GST rates to the consumers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (c) As per information available major companies are passing on the benefit of reduction in GST rates to consumers. Under the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011, Government has granted permission

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.