

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Production of 'A' grade coal**

1797. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the production of 'A' grade coal in the country, State-wise, during last five years;

(b) whether it is a fact that Public Sector Coal companies dispatch good quality coal produced in Madhya Pradesh to other States; and

(c) if so, the reasons for depriving Madhya Pradesh the legitimate access to their own natural resource?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL): (a) State-wise production of Grade 'A' coal in the country during last five years is given below:—

(In thousand tonnes)

State	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01	1999-00	1998-99
Andhra Pradesh	—	50	—	—	—
Assam	633	640	660	551	557
Bihar	—	—	—	196	119
Chattisgarh	791	780	781	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	790	785	795	1665	1812
Jharkhand	194	190	207	—	—
Orissa	—	—	—	—	9
West Bengal	962	1015	1105	1405	1178
TOTAL	3370	3460	3548	3817	3675

(b) Yes, Sir. Coal produced in Madhya Pradesh by Coal India Limited subsidiary is also dispatched to other States apart from Madhya Pradesh.

(c) Production of coal by public sector coal companies is confined only to some States of the country, namely, Assam, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Orissa, Chattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. The demand of the entire country has to be met from the production of these States only. Thus movement of coal from the coal producing States to other States is inevitable.