

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1546

ANSWERED ON:15.07.2009

SUPPLY OF COAL TO INDUSTRIAL UNITS

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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various coal companies are supplying sub-standard coal to the industrial units and power plants particularly in backward areas;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received in this regard during the last three years and in the current year, company-wise, State-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against companies for supplying sub-standard coal and to ensure regular supply of quality coal to these units in the backward areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) Subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd supply coal as per linkage/Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) to the Power plants and industrial units in various states including those in backward areas for such grades of coal as produced by the concerned subsidiary coal companies. For quality assurance, joint sampling facility is extended to the Thermal Power Stations and all large consumers having annual requirement of 0.4 million tonnes and above. Thus question of supply of substandard coal to any plant does not arise.

(b) As reported by Coal India Limited, no specific complaint has been received in respect of supply of sub-standard coal. However, complaints on supply of stone boulder and wet/sticky coal are received from time to time by Coal India Ltd through Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Power. Complaints are also sometimes received directly by coal companies from the consumers mainly from Power Houses. The number of such complaints received from power plants by different subsidiary companies during last three years are as under:

Year 2006-07 2007-08 2008-09

No. of	814	773	530
Complaints			

The break-up of company-wise and State-wise complaints received during the last three years are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Coal India Ltd on receipt of specific complaints from industries and thermal power plants etc. takes up with the concerned subsidiary companies for necessary investigation and redressal thereof. Similar action is taken by the subsidiary companies on receipt of complaints directly from the consumers wherever they are located including those located in the backward areas.

On investigation of such complaints it has been observed that some complaints of sticky/wet coal, mainly received during the rainy season, are unavoidable. As far as the issue of stone boulders is concerned, Power Houses are compensated for the stone/boulders segregated at the unloading end after joint assessment.