

the year 1998-99 is as under:—

Plant	Imported Coking Coal	Indigenous Coking Coal	Total
VSP	1742	384	2126
BSP	2475	2055	4530
DSP	840	1260	2100
RSP	740	1110	1850
BSL	1860	2090	3950
IISCO	100	1110	1210

Coking coal is imported by Steel Plants to bridge the quantitative and qualitative gap between their requirement and availability from indigenous sources. These imports are currently taking place from Australia, Canada and Newzealand.

(e) Steps taken to improve indigenous availability of coking coal are as follows:—

- (i) Increasing raw coking coal availability by reorganising existing mines and development of new mines.
- (ii) Modification of the existing coking coal washeries to improve the capacity utilisation as well as the quality of washed coking coal.
- (iii) Increasing raw coal feed to washeries by supplying low volatile medium coking coals of suitable quality.
- (iv) Two washeries at Kedla (CCL) and Madhuband (BCCL) have been commissioned which would produce desired quality of washed coal from the coking coal available at present.

[English]

#### Consumption of Foreign Liquor in Kerala

1561. SHRI E. AHAMED : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total foreign liquor and beer consumed in Kerala during 1997-98 and 1998-99, so far, and

(b) the reasons therefor and the amount earned by the Government by way of excise duty on liquor in the State during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) Sir, Central Government does not levy excise duty on alcoholic liquor for human consumption. The subject matter falls under Entry 51 of the State List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. However, the information as furnished by the State Government of Kerala is given below:—

	1997-98	1998-99 (Upto January)
Indian made foreign liquor consumed	57.25 lakh cases (515.25 lakh litres)	52.61 lakh cases (473.49 lakh litres)
Beer Consumed	27.93 lakh cases (217.85 lakh litres)	20.96 lakh cases (163.49 lakh litres)
Amount earned by way of State excise duty	Rs. 207.99 crores	Rs. 196.24 crores